THE LIBRARY CHRONICLE.

THE

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The Library Chronicle.

A MEMORANDUM BY THE LATE REV. H. H. BABER ON THE REMOVAL OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY FROM MONTAGUE HOUSE.

By Richard Garnett, Assistant Keeper of Printed Books.[1]

I am about to read a memorandum upon the removal of the Library of the British Museum from Montague House to its present quarters, drawn up in June, 1837, by the retiring Keeper of Printed Books, for the information and consideration of his successor, the late Sir Anthony Panizzi. The occasion was an epoch in the history of our national library, and any document connected with it will be deemed worthy of preservation. I am also glad to have the opportunity of offering a tribute to the memory of the writer, the Rev. Henry Hervey Baber. Mr. Baber's celebrity as a scholar is insured by his edition of the "Codex Alexandrinus." The clearness and good sense of the observations I am about to read would warrant the belief that he also possessed great claims to respect as an administrative librarian, even if there were not more conclusive evidence to the same effect. I refer more particularly to his reports on the projected printed catalogue, drawn up in 1834, and printed in the appendix to the Report of the British Museum Commission of 1849. Had his recommendations been attended to, the catalogue might have been complete in print thirty years ago, an achievement highly creditable to the establishment, although, from considerations into which this is not the place to enter, it may be questioned whether it would have been productive of much practical advantage. Nor was Mr. Baber's quarter of a century's tenure of office unmarked by important occurrences. In conjunction with Sir Henry Ellis he had compiled the general catalogue of the printed books, still so much valued as a compendious and handy guide to the contents of the Library at the time of its publication. His share of the work comprised the letters G to O inclusive, and all after R to the end of the alphabet, and I am not aware that any serious fault has been found with its execution. He had further been mainly instrumental in obtaining the Moll collection for the Museum, had received and arranged the Burney and Colt Hoare collections, and—far more important than either

[1] Read at the January Monthly Meeting.

—the magnificent Royal Library. He had thus acquired an amount of experience which entitled him to speak upon what must have appeared the formidable undertakings of removing and replacing 180,000 volumes, and of altering all the press marks throughout the catalogue without interference with the Reading Room. We must applaud the public spirit which induced him, on the eve of release from office, to prepare so full a memorandum for the guidance of his successor in an operation for which he himself would not be responsible. Mr. Panizzi became keeper on July 15, 1837; and Mr. Baber's paper is dated June 24. An endorsement on the fly-leaf in Mr. Panizzi's writing shows that it was immediately placed in his hands—a proof that Mr. Baber looked to him as his successor.

Hints and suggestions for the consideration of the Librarian who may have the management of the transfer of the printed books contained in the old Library to the rooms provided for them in the new building.

"When the time comes for the transfer of the books from the old to the new Library "the first great object to be had in view will be so to replace them that they will consume "the least possible space, and render the Library most agreeable to the eye in its "general appearance, which can only be done by arranging the volumes according to "their sizes, and that without their being too crowded, that they may be taken down "and replaced without difficulty and injury.

"For the benefit of the readers, and for the convenience also of the Librarian, no "more books should be removed at one time than what would be about sufficient to "fill one press. To avoid annoyance to the readers, and to save from injury the floors "of the MSS. Department, and the King's Library, the books should be conveyed on "library carriages, or by hand barrows, from the old Library through the Statuary (to "which Mr. Hawkins would not object) to the new Library. In arranging the books "for their respective presses they should, in the first instance, be placed upon temporary "tables or platforms in rows, beginning with folios, and terminating gradually with the "smallest sized books, and then, when subdivided into as many shelf lengths as each "press would require, every volume or set of books should, as the case may require, "have attached to it one of Mr. Yeates's tickets, e. g.

"4. L. b. Pflaumern I. H. à.
"1669.

"Containing its corresponding reference in the old Library. As soon as books are "placed upon their new shelf they should be marked with their new reference: this "reference should be inserted in red ink in Mr. Yeates's ticket, e. g.

"4. L. b. Pflaumern I. H. à.
"1699.
"350. a.

"This ticket should then be removed from the book and given to a copyist to "transcribe from it the new reference prefixed to its appropriate title in the interleaved "Catalogues in use in the Reading Room and the Library. The tickets thus transcribed "will prove further useful as a rough draft from which, when they are properly sorted "according to their press and shelf mark, and according to the order in which each "book to which they refer stands on the shelf, a hand catalogue may be transcribed, "containing an inventory of the contents of every shelf in the Library.

"Books of an extra size, such as atlases, many historical works and books of plates,

" &c. should, as they occur, be laid aside to be placed in classes too in the extra deep " presses made expressly for the reception of such books.

" It will be further found convenient in innumerable instances (especially to the " librarians) to replace the books in the new Library in classes. The system of classi- " fication originally adopted by the Librarian (Mr. Harper) under whose direction the " printed books were in the first instance arranged in classes, was very defective, " imperfectly observed, and has, for many years past, for want of room, been more or " less trespassed upon in every press, and hence cannot with advantage and credit be " repeated in the new Library. Under these circumstances, if the books are, as they " most probably will be, replaced in classes, the system of classification drawn up by " Mr. Horne for the consideration of the Trustees in 1825 might be advantageously " used by adopting, in the first instance, the six principal classes, then the sections of " each class, and afterwards the primary divisions of each section. To attempt to " arrange the books under any of the subdivisions of each primary division would be, " for the most part, unadvisable, as it would be found to be frequently perplexing, and " oftentimes impracticable.

" In assembling the books in the first instance according to their classes, it will be " requisite to peruse carefully the summary view drawn up by Mr. Baber of the con- " tents of the presses in the old Library, and to mark a copy of Mr. Horne's outlines, " &c. with references affixed to each class or section, or smaller division, wherein books " of a corresponding class exist in the old Library. For examples see the marked copy " of Horne's Outlines, &c.

" Religion, p. 20.
" Philosophy, p. 40, &c.
" History, p. 61, 64, 65.
" Literature, p. 70, &c.

" It would be desirable for the convenience of the readers, and it would save much " time and labour to the attendants, occupied as they necessarily are in looking out " books for the students, and returning them to their presses in the Library, to " furnish the Reading Rooms with all such works of reference and other books as are " from time to time found to be in almost daily request,[1] viz.

" Dictionaries in every language.
" Biographical and historical.
" Dictionaries.
" Gazetteers.
" Atlases and Maps.
" Encyclopædias and special Dictionaries of Science and Arts, &c. The Gentleman's " Magazine, and such other journals and reviews as are in daily use.
" Some collections of Classics, such as Valpy's or Lemaire's.
" A few of the best classed Catalogues.

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[1] So far as I am aware this is the first suggestion extant for the formation of a library of reference for the use of visitors to a public reading room. Something of the kind must have existed in Montague House, but Mr. Baber's observations plainly imply that it was exceedingly meagre and inadequate. The reference library in the old reading room of the Museum was greatly improved in September 1850, on occasion of the introduction of the supplementary or carbonic catalogue in 150 volumes. The rule, excellent when practicable, that the books should not be beyond the reach of a reader standing had then to be broken.

"The County Histories and other topographical works which are in constant requisition.
"The London Gazette.
"Acts of Parliament, public and private.
"Parliamentary Sessional Papers.
"Journals of the Lords and Commons, &c. &c.

"These books of reference to be in some degree classed, and not placed beyond the "reach of a reader standing. It is recommended that certain presses in the Reading "Room be reserved for the exclusive use of the Keeper and Assistant Keeper of the "same, and also that a sufficient space in some of the presses in these rooms be set "apart for the temporary deposit of such books as the readers wish to have reserved for "their further perusal. Such presses ought to be kept locked up, and the books deposited "therein delivered out only by an attendant, and then such a robbery as that committed "lately by Edgar Roberts[1] could not again occur. It would be desirable to clear out "these presses at the end of every month, and return the books to their appropriate "shelves in the Library.

"All the spare space in the presses in the Reading Rooms after these provisions have "been made should be filled up with such sets of books as are seldom or ever called "for. Hence the readers would be saved from those interruptions which would "otherwise be the case were the books of a different description.

"The Newspapers will have a room specially prepared for them. The collection "called the King's Pamphlets, given by George III at the commencement of his reign, "must necessarily be kept together. It would be desirable that the series of pamphlets "in Room XIII be kept together wherever they may be deposited, in the numerical "order in which they now stand, with an allowance of shelf room sufficient for addition "for years to come.[2]

"The periodical works, such as Transactions of Societies, Journals, Reviews, Maga- "zines, &c. ought to be deposited in one or more rooms specially set apart for them, and "space sufficient reserved at the end of each set of works for the accessions which may "accrue. As it may not in the first instance be easy to conjecture what room may be "required for this class of books, their removal ought to be deferred to the last. "Whether the Cracherode Library and that of Sir Joseph Banks, and the collection of "Sir R. C. Hoare should be kept together, as at present, or broken up,[3] and distributed "in their appropriate classes throughout the Library in general, is a question to be well "weighed and settled by the Trustees before the removal of the Library can actually "commence.

"The most useful press and shelf mark which can be affixed to each book is that "of a number[4] to show the press in which a book is placed and a letter following it to

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[1] The theft committed by Edgar Roberts was discovered on April 7, 1837, through the instrumentality of a bookseller, who recognized books offered to him by Roberts as belonging to the Museum. It does not precisely appear from the police reports in what manner the robbery was effected.

[2] The series of pamphlets in Room XIII were the collection of miscellaneous pamphlets now marked T, but otherwise kept just as in Mr. Baber's time. His advice that the collection should be kept up shows that he did not participate in his successor's entirely unreasonable objection to binding pamphlets in volumes, a practice to which the Museum has reverted with great advantage.

[3] The collections in question were not broken up, and it seems surprising that the idea of dispersing them should ever have been entertained.

[4] This is the first distinct testimony of which I am aware, though no doubt earlier ones may be found, of the advantage of numbering book presses by figures instead of by letters,

"designate the shelf in that press on which it stands; *ex. gr.* 305, a, thus far adopting "the mode of reference used in the King's Library, and carrying it on throughout the "new Library. In this case then the first number to be affixed to the presses in the "New Library would be 305, as the last press in the King's Library is 304.

"Should the Librarian wish (which is not recommended) to use the third reference "adopted in the King's Library,[1] viz.: the number showing the particular place of each "book on its appropriate shelf, it can be affixed hereafter by any ordinary attendant.

June 24, 1837. "H. H. BABER."

Any remarks which I may have to offer upon points of special interest in this memorandum will be made most appropriately in the form of notes, which I will endeavour to prepare in time to accompany it in the *Library Chronicle.* We shall, I hope, learn from Mr. Bullen, the only survivor, I believe, among those who personally effected the removal, how far Mr. Baber's suggestions were carried out, with many other particulars worthy of record. One observation I may make in this place, that the removal seems to have been very carefully performed, and the custody of the books while at Montague House to have been very well attended to. In the old interleaved catalogue referred to by Mr. Baber the press-marks which the books had in Montague House stand to this day crossed out, against those which they received when deposited in the new building. Where the Montague House press-mark stands by itself it is an indication that the book was either lost during the removal, or had disappeared before it took place; but the percentage of such press-marks is infinitesimally small.

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as is almost invariably the practice in old-fashioned libraries. The King's library presses, however, had been numbered by figures from the time of their removal to the Museum, probably by Mr. Baber's advice. He did not think of leaving gaps in the numerical series to facilitate the introduction of new presses, the invention of Mr. Watts, to whom the admirable method of marking periodicals employed at the Museum is also due.

[1] Mr. Panizzi fortunately did not act on Mr. Baber's advice in this particular, and all the books removed, except periodicals, collections of tracts and the reference books in the reading room, received the third mark. It is greatly to be wished that the same plan had been carried out in the new library: but it must be admitted that Mr. Baber, and Mr. Panizzi on the latter occasion, were right from the point of view from which they regarded the matter. To fasten books down by third marks is fatal to strict classification on the shelves, an object of great importance were it not eclipsed by the still more important object of meeting the requisitions of readers with the least possible delay. For the last ten years all additions to the Museum library, except in some special cases, have received the third mark: and for eight years great efforts have been made to affix it to the books previously left unmarked, both on the shelves and in the catalogue. Upwards of 25,000 books were so marked last year. Mr. Baber does not seem to have thought of the great advantage of indicating press-marks externally by labelling the books. This was done a few years afterwards, at the suggestion of Mr. Winter Jones, and the first set of labels cost £500.

THE ALTHORP LIBRARY.[1]

By Lord Charles Bruce, M.P.

The Althorp Library consisted originally of a family collection formed at Wormleighton, in Warwickshire, containing many valuable specimens of early English literature, and of a library acquired by the first Earl Spencer, formerly belonging to Dr. George Head, Master of Eton, which was remarkable for its series of English tracts. It owes its present celebrity and importance to George John, second Earl Spencer, who within a period of twenty-four years, added to it by the formation of what is known as the Bibliotheca Spenceriana. The foundation of the Spencer Library may be said to have been laid in 1790, by the purchase of Count Reviczky's collection, the chief characteristic of which was its extraordinary series of the earliest and rarest editions of the Greek and Latin classics. The conditions under which the purchase was effected, it is said, were the payment of £1,000, and an annuity of £500, which the Count only lived three years to enjoy.

The retirement of Lord Spencer from official life in 1807, enabled him to devote himself more exclusively to literary pursuits, and to making further additions to his collection. His acquaintance with Dibdin, to whom he subsequently entrusted the revision and charge of his library, dates from 1802, from which time a literary correspondence seems to have passed between them for upwards of thirty years. In 1812 Dibdin commenced his *Bibliotheca Spenceriana*, being a descriptive catalogue of the fifteenth century books, which were afterwards removed to Althorp, but were then at Spencer House, to which he had the freest access. In the progress of this work Lord Spencer took a very active interest, correcting not only the MS. sheets which from time to time were sent to him, but also the first proofs previous to publication. At the same time, numerous very valuable acquisitions to the library were being made by auction or private purchase, Lord Spencer's attention being mainly directed to completing his Caxton collection. His interesting letters to Dibdin during these years show what a reliance he placed on his advice and judgment in the selection and purchase of such works as would form a worthy addition to the Spencer Library. By an exchange of books, several rare volumes were obtained from the Royal Library at Stuttgart through Dibdin, when commissioned to purchase early editions for his patron on the continent, and also from the Cathedral Library of Lincoln. In 1819, in consequence of the dispersion of the famous Marlborough Library at Whiteknights, the memorable copy of the "Valdarfer Boccaccio" was purchased for £750. In the same year, Lord Spencer, during a continental tour, obtained possession of the library of the Duke of Cassano Serra, a nobleman highly distinguished as a great book-collector at Naples, by which he acquired many of the earliest and rarest productions of the Neapolitan press.

Speaking generally of the Althorp Library, it is not too much to say that hardly ever has there been a series of books brought together illustrating so completely as this collection the origin and development of the art of printing. Nor is it less remarkable for the different impressions of the Holy Scriptures in almost every language, and for

[1] Read at the Dublin Meeting of the Library Association in October.

the extraordinary variety and number of the first editions of the classics which it contains. And if the contents of the books themselves excite our interest and admiration, we shall be no less struck with their perfect condition and state of preservation, and with the appropriateness, and often with the magnificence, of their bindings, Of the many specimens of rare and artistic book-binding in the collection, illustrating the history of that art from the fifteenth to the present century, I can only refer to the productions of the great artists who worked for Francis I, Grolier, Maioli, Henri II, Diane de Poitiers, Charles IX, Henri IV and Marie de Medicis, Lamoignon, De Thou, Loménie de Brienne, Colbert, Louis XIV, Prince Eugène, Louis XV, Madame de Pompadour, James I, Charles I, and of Nicholas Eve, Pasdeloup, the two Derômes, and of our English binder Roger Payne.

Having given some account of the formation of the Library, I will now proceed to describe in detail some of its contents. Commencing with the earliest works connected with the infancy of printing, the first object of interest is the celebrated block-print of St. Christopher, bearing an inscription of two lines and the date of 1423. This woodcut, coloured by hand, apparently by means of a stencil plate, has long been considered the most ancient specimen with a date attached to it of the use of printing ink, and is one of the most valuable relics in existence connected with the early history of the art of engraving. But the Brussels print of the Virgin and Child, if altogether genuine, claims priority in age, having the year 1418 marked upon it. The "St. Christopher" is pasted inside the cover of a manuscript, bound in untanned leather, and entitled *Laus Virginis*, which was discovered in the Convent of Buxheim, near Memmingen. In the colophon of the MS. the date 1417 occurs, and within the left side of the binding, the volume contains another woodcut, of the "Annunciation," similar in style and execution to that of the "St. Christopher." Of the block-books, which marked the next step in the development of the art of printing, the library contains no less than nine specimens. Of these, the most remarkable are, the "Biblia Pauperum" (of which there are copies of two editions) the "Ars Moriendi," and a perfect impression of "Historia Virginis ex Cantico Canticorum," which three may be grouped together, as having every appearance of a common origin. There are also an "Ars Memorandi," being a Memoria Technica of the Four Gospels, which from the formation of the letters and rudeness of execution bears the mark of great antiquity, and copies of "Quindecem Signa Extremi Judicii" and of the "Enndkrist" in German, all of which probably belong to a like early period. What, however, perhaps creates the most interest is a fine copy of "Sancti Johannis Apocalypsis" coloured; the original wooden block from which two of the impressions were taken, being in the Library. The book itself is in the German binding of the XVth century with the date 1467 impressed outside. There is also a copy of an entirely different edition of the same work. Mention may further be made of three block-books, of a somewhat later date: "Die Kunst Ciromantia" by a Doctor Hartlieb, printed by "iorg scappf zu Augspurg," "Mirabilia Romæ" in German of about 1480, and a "Calendaire" with maps, in 12mo, on vellum.

We come now to the earliest known specimen of the impression of moveable metal types, with a date subjoined, viz., the celebrated Letters of Indulgence granted by Nicholas V. in 1452 to all who by sums of money were willing to defend Cyprus against the Turks. Of these there are two copies in the collection, one consisting of thirty-one, and the other of thirty lines. They are printed in Gothic characters on small sheets of vellum,

to one of which the original Papal seal is appended. May 1st, 1452, is specified as the time from which the Indulgence commenced. The older of the two bears the date 1454 as the year in which that particular copy of the letter was granted; the other one was issued in the following year. It is interesting to note that the large type of each closely resembles that of the first "Mentz" and of the "Pfister" Bible.

The Letters of Indulgence were no doubt among the earliest productions of the Mentz press, but the first important work executed by Gutenberg and Fust was what is commonly known as the "Mazarin" Bible, from the name of the Cardinal in whose library a copy of it was first discovered. This, the first printed Bible, and the earliest complete printed book known, must have appeared about 1455, as a copy of it in the National Library at Paris contains a memorandum of one Cremer to the effect that it had been illuminated and bound by him in 1456. The Althorp copy is on paper and perfect, and is considered to be the first edition, having pages 1 to 9 with 40 lines, the 10th with 41, and the remainder with 42.

To the first book printed with the date and the names of the printers, there must always be attached the greatest value and interest, which is further increased by the extreme beauty of the production, which is unrivalled in the annals of typography, and the knowledge of the fact that only six or seven copies of it, all printed on vellum, are known to exist. The Mentz Psalter of 1457 may well be considered one of the greatest treasures of the Althorp Library. This copy, which was in the Monastery of Roth, near Memmingen, contains 143 leaves, and, were not the margin somewhat cut down, would be perfect. The second edition of the Psalter, that of 1459, being the second dated book, together with the third of 1490, are in the collection, both on vellum. In 1462, Fust and Schoeffer gave to the world the first printed Bible, but before that date they had produced the "Durandus" in 1459, and the Constitutions of Clement V. in 1460, very fine copies of which on vellum are at Althorp, where also a perfect impression of Gutenberg's "Catholicon" of 1460, the fifth dated book, is to be found. The Spencer copy of the "Mentz" Bible is in every way magnificent, being printed on pure vellum, and richly illuminated throughout in gold and colours. Mentz has also the honour of having produced the first dated classic author, "Ciceronis Officia," in 1465, of which a complete copy is in the library. It is a small folio, and in it Greek characters, as headings of the chapters, are introduced for the first time.

The capture of Mentz in 1462 by Adolphus of Nassau led to the dispersion of many of Gutenberg's and Fust's workmen, and to a development of the art of typography throughout Europe which might otherwise have been deferred for an indefinite period, although the printing press was at work at Bamberg and Strasburg as early as 1460. A most interesting document in the library, connected with this crisis in the history of printing, is a broadside sheet $23\frac{1}{2}$ by $16\frac{1}{8}$ inches, uncut, being a protest by Diether von Isenburg against his deposition by the Pope and Emperor from the See and Electorate of Mentz and the elevation of Adolphus of Nassau, printed in 1462 by Fust and Schoeffer, as the character of the type indicates. There are in the British Museum seven broadsides on the same subject, but not this particular one, which perhaps is the largest single sheet printed in the fifteenth century, containing as it does 106 lines. Among the earliest to convey the secrets of the press to other parts of Germany on the taking of Mentz was Ulrich Zell, one of Fust's and Schoeffer's workmen, who set up a printing establishment at Cologne. His earliest dated book, "Chrysostomus super Psalmo Quinquagesimo," 1466, a tract of excessive rarity, is to be seen in the

collection. Copies, too, of the first book printed at Augsburg, 1468, by Gunther Zainer, "Bonaventuræ Meditationes," and of the earliest dated production of the Nuremberg press, "De Retza's Comestorium Vitiorum," by Sensenschmidt, 1470, are at Althorp. Although of much later date, 1517, a splendid uncoloured copy of the allegorical poem of "Tewrdannckh" on vellum, printed at Nuremberg, must be mentioned as a work remarkable for the beauty of its type and of the numerous wood engravings by Schaüffelein, a pupil of Dürer's, which it contains.

Of the Mentz pressmen, who found a refuge in foreign countries, the most notable were Sweynheym and Pannartz, who were the first to introduce printing into Italy, a country which was so soon to take the lead in developing the art, and to become renowned by the number, beauty, and variety of its typographical productions. They first set up a press in the monastery of Subiaco, where they produced four works, a small school book named "Donatus," of which no authentic copy has been found, and the three following works, fine impressions of which are in the Spencer Library: "Cicero de Oratore," a quarto volume probably printed Sept. 1465; "Lactantius," a folio bearing the date Oct. 1465; and "Augustinus de Civitate Dei." In none of these do the names of the printers appear, and in the "Lactantius" alone is Subiaco named. On their removing to Rome and being received into the house of Peter and Francis de Maximis, they issued in 1467 an edition of Cicero's "Epistolæ ad Familiares," the first book printed in Roman type. Of this, the library contains a copy, as well as impressions of thirty-one out of the thirty-two works which these indefatigable printers produced during the next five years. Whilst printing was thus proceeding with such rapidity at Rome, a corresponding activity was manifesting itself in Milan, Venice, Florence, Naples and other towns of Italy. Of the many and rare typographical productions of these places, copies of which are in the Althorp Collection, the following must be named:

The first edition of the first book printed in Greek, being the "Lascaris" grammar of 1476, and the earliest impression of the first Greek classic, "Æsop's Life and Fables" of 1480, both printed at Milan. The first dated book, hitherto discovered, printed at Florence, 1471, by the Cennini, "Servii Commentarii in Virgilium," and the celebrated Florence "Homer" of 1488. The first edition of "Dante" from the press of Numeister at Foligno, 1472, and copies of the Jesi and Mantua editions of the poet executed the same year. The earliest impressions of "Petrarch," Venice, 1470, and of "Ariosto," Ferrara, 1516, and the first productions of the presses of Bologna, Mantua and Padua. The five celebrated classical works printed in Greek capitals by Alopa, of Florence, two, including the first of the series, "Anthologia Græca," 1494, being on vellum.

The degree of excellence which the typographical art attained at Venice calls for a somewhat more detailed account of the very rare specimens of the works which emanated from that city, which are to be found in the library. First, we have the earliest book printed at Venice, "Cicero ad Familiares," the production of Johannes Spira, 1469, and on vellum. Copies of the only other two works which are known to have issued from his press, including his magnificent edition of Pliny, are also here. Of the beautifully executed productions of Nicholas Jenson, there are numerous examples, of which the "Eusebius" of 1470 is supposed to be his first work. Christopher Valdarfer, whose earliest book, "Cicero de Oratore," printed in the same year, is also at Althorp, will long be remembered in England as the printer of the first and celebrated edition of Boccaccio's Decameron of 1471, the only perfect copy of which was knocked

down to the Duke of Marlborough for £2,260 at the sale of the Duke of Roxburgh's collection in 1812, after a contest between Lord Spencer and himself. Some years after, Lord Spencer obtained it for £750. Only three other copies of it are known to exist, viz. those at Paris and Milan, and the one recently sold for £585 at the Sunderland sale, which has fallen into English hands. The extreme rarity of the volume is to be attributed to its having formed part of an edition committed to the flames by the Florentines at the preaching of Savonarola.

The name of Aldus will always be associated with the perfection of printing; and of the numerous editions which issued from the press which he established at Venice about 1494, the present collection possesses an extraordinary series. A memorandum, in the handwriting of the founder of the library, gives the total number of "Aldines" as six hundred and ten, and out of that number no less than fifteen 8vos, printed by the elder Aldus, are on vellum. Of his earliest and rarest productions the following must be mentioned: "Musaeus," in Greek and Latin, supposed to be his first work. A complete copy of his folio edition of "Aristotle," 1495-98. "Poliphili Hypnerotomachia," of 1499, the wood engravings of which are supposed to have been designed by Giovanni Bellini. The Virgil of 1501, being the first book printed in Italic or Aldine type. The Petrarch of the same date, with MS. notes by Cardinal Bembo, who edited it from an autograph manuscript of Petrarch. A complete copy of the Dante of 1502, being the first book in which Aldus employed the device of the anchor and dolphin, and also of the "Ovid" and of the Greek "Anthology" of the year 1503, all these five last-named works being on vellum.

To Italy belongs the honour of having produced the three earliest books with copper-plate illustrations, fine impressions of which are at Althorp. The first is the "Monte Santo di Dio," printed at Florence by Niccolo di Lorenzo, 1477, containing three engravings, which are supposed to have been designed by Sandro Botticelli, and executed by Baccio Baldini. The second is an edition in Latin of "Ptolemy's Maps," commenced by Sweynheym, the partner of Pannartz, and completed by Buckinck at Rome, 1478. The third is an edition of "Dante" with Landino's Commentary, printed by Lorenzo della Magna at Florence 1481. This copy contains twenty copper-plates, one of which is in duplicate, which are also attributed to Botticelli, and also an engraving of earlier date.

Typography was introduced into France as early as 1470, through the exertions of two of the learned professors of the Theological College of the Sorbonne at Paris, Fichet and De la Pierre, who induced three working printers from Germany—Gering, Crantz and Friburger—to set up a press within its walls. Their earliest production, "Gasparinus Pergamensis," and several copies of their works, including the first Bible printed at Paris, are in the collection. Many specimens of the illustrious family of Stephens might also be enumerated. Simultaneously with Paris, Switzerland produced its first printed book at Münster in Aargau, entitled "Mamotractus," a copy of which, as well as of the earliest work issued by the Geneva press, 1478, "Le Livre des Sains Anges," is to be found here.

The development of the Art of Printing in the Low Countries must have a special interest for us, intimately connected as it is with the history of William Caxton. Utrecht was the first town in the Dutch Netherlands, where typography was practised, which appears to have commenced about 1471, the earliest printers having been Ketelaer and Gerardus de Leempt. The first book produced in Belgium, came

from the press of John of Westphalia and Thierri Martens, who in 1473 printed "Speculum Conversionis Peccatorum" at Alost, a copy of which is at Althorp. Colard Mansion is generally admitted to have been the earliest printer at Bruges. Little is known of his history, but he appears to have been a caligraphist, and to have left his native city for a short time to learn the new art of printing, the knowledge of which he subsequently imparted to Caxton. He seems never to have produced works from his Press with rapidity. His dated books, commencing with "Le Jardin de Devotion" of 1476, his first production, are only six in number, and in all, only 20 of his Works are known to exist. Of these, the Althorp Library possesses two very fine specimens, "Boëce de la Consolation de Philosophie" with the date 1477, a folio, and "Dionysii Areopagite liber," a small folio undated. Both have Colard Mansion's name and device in the colophon.

Owing to the great encouragement given to literature by Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy, Bruges, where he held his Court, became the resort of authors, translators and scribes from all parts of Europe, with many of whom Caxton, during his 33 years' residence in that city, must have been brought constantly into contact. One of the popular works of the day was, "Le Recueil des Histoires de Troye," which Caxton proceeded to translate into English for the benefit of his countrymen, and presented a copy of it in MS. to the Duchess of Burgundy, into whose service he had entered. For this, his first literary production, there was such a demand, that as he states in the epilogue of the printed edition of the work, his hand "grew wery and not stedfast" with much writing, and his eyes were "dimed with overmoch lokyng on the whit paper." And he goes on to say, that consequently he had practised and learnt, at his great charge and expense, to ordain the books in print, to the end that every one might have them at once. Thus it was, that he applied himself to acquiring a knowledge of the Art of Printing, under the instruction and with the assistance of Colard Mansion.[1]

Mr. Blades enumerates 99 productions of his Press, as known to exist. Of these the British Museum possesses the largest number of copies ever brought together, viz. 81, of which 25 are duplicates. The Collection of Caxtons in the Spencer Library is more complete, numbering as it does 57 separate works, of which 31 are perfect and 3 unique, namely: "The Four Sons of Aymon," "The History of Blanchardin and Eglantine," both printed in the same type, but imperfect, and a Folio Broadside of Death-Bed Prayers, which is in perfect condition and measures 11 by 3 inches. Foremost among the Caxton Treasures at Althorp, we find, the two first books produced by Caxton at Bruges with the aid of Colard Mansion. 1. The Recuyell of the Historyes of Troye, being the earliest work printed in the English language. 2. The Game and Playe of the Chess, moralized. The first leaf of the "Recuyell" is in MS., otherwise the two works are perfect. As belonging to this period, must be mentioned "Le Recueil des Histoires de Troyes," the first book printed in French, which Mr. Blades regards as a production of Colard Mansion. The impression of it in the Library is perfect.

A complete copy of "The Dictes and Sayings of the Philosophers" has a special interest, as being the first Caxton, in which the printer's name, the place and time of

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1 For this and other information respecting William Caxton and his Works, I am indebted to Mr. Blades, who in his most valuable and interesting "Biography of England's First Printer," has brought to light many important facts connected with his history.

its production are stated as follows: "Emprynted by me William Caxton at Westmester, 1477."

An important relic connected with the house inhabited by our first printer, and affording the earliest known instance of a broadside printed in England, is to be seen in the Collection in the shape of an advertisement, of which only one other copy, and that an imperfect one, exists. It consists of one paragraph of seven lines, the longest measuring 5 inches, and reads as follows:

> If it plese ony man spirituel or temporel to bye ony pyes of two and thre comemoracios of salisburi use empryntid after the forme of this preset lettre whiche ben wel and truly correct/ late hym come to westmonester in to the almonesrye at the reed pale and he shal have them good chepe.
>
> Supplico stet cedula.

Mention can only be made of a few of the rarest of the Caxton collection in the Library, among which may be cited, a perfect copy of the "Moral Proverbs of Cristyne," 1478, of which only two others exist.

A fine uncut copy of "Propositio Johannis Russell," a Latin oration delivered upon the investment of the Duke of Burgundy with the Order of the Garter, of which one other impression is known.

The third edition of "Parvus et Magnus Chato," 1481? a perfect copy with two woodcuts, which may be considered as the earliest specimens of wood engraving in England. "The Noble Histories of King Arthur, emprynted in the abbey of westmestre MCCCCLXXXV. The "Curial of Maister Alan Chartier." A perfect copy of "Curia Sapientiæ," of which three exist. Further, there are copies of the two editions of "Chaucer's Canterbury Tales," and of the "Book of Fame," and a perfect impression of a "Vocabulary in French and English," of which compilation no MS. is known.

Of Wynkyn de Worde, Caxton's immediate successor, the most notable works in the Collection are, a copy of the finest production of his press, "Bartholomæus de proprietatibus rerum," the first book printed on paper of English manufacture, made at Hertford by John Tate. A perfect impression on vellum of "Treatyses pertyning to hawkynge, huntynge and coutarmours and fysshynge," bearing date 1496, with woodcuts.

Of Pynson, who speaks of Caxton as "my worshipful master," there is an impression of his first dated book, "Dives and Pauper," 1463; and what is of yet greater interest, the copy of the first edition, 1521, of "Henricus VIII Assertio septem Sacramentorum adversus Martinum Lutherum," which was presented to the King of Denmark, printed on vellum and perfect.

Nor is the Spencer Library less rich in other early productions of the English press. Of the 17 works which are supposed to have issued from Oxford between 1478-85, copies of six are to be found here, including the "Exposicio S. Hieronomi," with the date 1468, which the highest authorities have pronounced to be 1478. Only eight works are known to have been printed by the Schoolmaster of St. Albans, who is said to have worked his press from 1480 to 1486. Of these there are: the first book printed at St. Albans, "Rhetorica Laurentii de Saona," 1480; the St. Albans Chronicle," 1483; and that very rare production, "The Bokys of Hawkyng, Huntyng and Cootarmuris," bearing the date of 1486, and supposed to have been written by Juliana Barnes,

Prioress of Sopwell Nunnery. Of the works of Lettou and Machlinia, who carried on printing in the City of London at this period, there are also copies in the Collection, and I would particularly call attention to a remarkable and very interesting broadside sheet, which has lately been brought to light at Althorp, and which is declared by Mr. Blades to be the production of Machlinia. It is a form of dispensation of the marriage contracted between King Henry VII and his Queen Elizabeth, daughter of Edward IV, King of England, issued by Pope Innocent VIII in 1486. It is in English, and printed in a type closely resembling that of Caxton.

In speaking of the English press, mention must be made of the following works in the Library of a later date, which are remarkable rather for the literary interest attached to them, than for beauty of typography. The four folio editions of Shakespeare's Plays, 1623-32-64-85 ; the first impressions of Milton's Comus, his earliest work, 1637; of Paradise Lost, 1667; and of Spenser's Faërie Queen, 1590; and the fourth and last edition of Johnson's Dictionary, 1773, corrected by the author in his own handwriting, which copy belonged to Sir Joshua Reynolds.

As the art of typography spread through Germany, Italy, France, the Low Countries and other parts of Europe, the Bible was generally one of the first productions of each of the early printers, and the Althorp Library will be found to contain nearly all the earliest and most remarkable copies of the Holy Scriptures.

Only second in interest to the "Gutenberg" and the Mentz Bible of 1462, are copies of the Bamberg or Pfister, and of the Strasburg or Mentelin Biblia Latina of 1460. Of the fourteen distinct large folio ante-Lutheran Bibles in German, the three first, the fifth, sixth, seventh and ninth are here, the first being supposed to have been printed at Strasburg by Mentelin about 1466. There are further, the first edition of the Vulgate, printed at Rome, 1471, by Sweynheym and Pannartz, 275 impressions of which alone were struck off, being the second Bible with a date. A copy of the oldest Italian version known, edited by Malermi and printed by Vindelin de Spira, also in 1471. The first of the 13 celebrated Bibles which came from Coburger's house at Nuremberg during the last quarter of the fifteenth century; and the earliest impression of the Latin Bible printed at Venice by Hailbrunn, both of the date 1475. The first Bible printed in Paris, the production of Gering, Crantz and Friburger, in the College of the Sorbonne, 1476. Two splendid Bibles on vellum, printed in the same year by Moravus at Naples, and Jenson at Venice. The first edition of the New Testament in French, by Buyer of Lyons, and the earliest impression of the Old Testament in Dutch, by Jacobs and Yements, of Delft, 1477. The first printed portion of Holy Writ in Greek, namely, the Psalms, executed at Milan at the expense of Bonaccursius Pisanus in 1481; and the earliest edition of the Pentateuch in Hebrew, printed at Bologna 1482. Allusion must be made further to the following copies of the Scriptures: the Psalter of Giustiniani, in five languages, printed on vellum at Genoa in 1516, and celebrated for the curious gloss on the words of the XIXth Psalm : "Their sound is gone out into all lands, and their words into the ends of the world," giving important particulars of Columbus' second voyage along the south coast of Cuba, nowhere else to be found. The first five editions of Erasmus' New Testament, in Greek and Latin, 1516-35, the first of which is reported to have been produced by Erasmus and Froben at Basle in five months. The first Bible in Greek, the Septuagint version, from the press of Aldus, 1518. Martin Luther's first Bible, printed by Peypus of Nuremberg in German in 1524, on vellum, with woodcuts, richly illuminated. The Olivetan, or first Protestant

French Bible, issued at Neuchatel the same year as our Coverdale, 1535. The Tigurine Bible in Latin, of 1543, the work of Leo Juda and the divines of Zurich. Two copies of the Old Testament of Ferrara, 1553, being the first impression of Holy Scripture in Spanish, one of which was for the use of the Jews, the other of the Christians. The first Protestant version of the Polish Bible, made by Prince Radziwil and the Reformers at Pinczow, in 1563; and the first edition of the Sclavonic Bible, a volume of the highest rarity, printed in Poland in 1581. The earliest impression of the Codex Vaticanus of 1586, and the Clementine Bible of 1592, containing the authentic text of the Vulgate. Reference can only be made to the four celebrated Polyglot Bibles, perfect and fine copies of which are in the Collection, viz. the Complutensian of Cardinal Ximenes, 1514-17, though not published until 1520. The "Antwerp" of Plantinus, 1572, edited at the command of Philip II, only 500 copies having been printed, of which the greater part were lost at sea. The "Paris," by Le Jay, 1645, and the "London," by Walton, of 1657, being the Republican copy, and one of twelve struck off on large paper. A magnificent copy of the Elzevir Amsterdam Protestant version of the Bible, 1669, closes this list.

I have reserved till the last the very interesting and valuable collection of copies of the Holy Scriptures in the English language which the library contains.

Commencing with William Tyndale, we find a complete copy of what is usually called the 2nd edition of his Pentateuch, 1534. The Book of Numbers is in Gothic, the other four books in small Roman type, and there are no marginal notes or preface. Further, there is a fine perfect impression of his last edition of the New Testament, "yet once again corrected by him," most probably when in prison, and printed the year of his martyrdom at Vilvorde in 1536. Of the first impression of the most precious volume in our language, our first complete English Bible, finished by Miles Coverdale, Oct. 4, 1535, only a single perfect copy is known to exist, that in Lord Leicester's Library at Holkham. The imperfections in the Althorp copy extend to the title, which belongs to the Bible printed in 1549 by Raynolde and Hyll, and the map. And further, the dedication leaves, containing the name of Queen Jane Seymour, are from the 2nd edition of the Coverdale Bible, 1537, issued by Nicolson of Southwark, who also the same year produced a 4to edition, which was the first English Bible printed in England, of which there is an impression at Althorp.

The series of English Bibles in the Library, from Coverdale's time down to the year 1611, when the authorised version was issued, may be said to be almost complete. They are as follows; What is known as "Matthew's" Bible, which was edited by John Rogers, the first martyr under Queen Mary, printed abroad, and published in London by Grafton and Whitchurch, 1537. The "Taverner" Bible, 1539. The first edition of "The Great Bible," commonly called Cranmer's, of which there were seven distinct editions issued during the years 1539-40-41, the 2nd edition also being here. The first edition of the Geneva version, or "Breeches" Bible, which from 1506 to 1630 was the most popular Bible in England and Scotland. The "Bishops'" of 1568, a revision of the Great Bible superintended by Archbishop Parker. The first Bible printed in Scotland, the work of Bassandyne and Arbuthnot at Edinburgh, 1579. It is the Geneva version in Roman type, and was issued under sanction of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. The first impression of the Rhemes New Testament of 1582, the result of the labours of Roman Catholic priests, exiles from England in 1568; and lastly the Authorised Version of 1611.

Of Missals and other Service Books in the collection, the following only can be referred to; two very rare impressions on vellum of the Roman Missal, one printed by Ulric Han at Rome in 1475, being the 2nd edition of this particular Liturgy, the other by Moravus of Naples, 1477.

Missale Fratrum Predicatorum by Andreas Asulanus, the father-in-law of Aldus, Venice, 1496, on vellum. Very richly and beautifully illuminated, and with ornamental initials.

The celebrated Mozarabic Missal and Breviary of 1500 and 1502. These were both printed at Toledo, having been compiled, the former by Cardinal Ximenes, the latter by S. Isidore, for the use of the Goths residing in Spain, who, known by the name of "Mist" or "Mozarabes," from the fact of their ancestors having remained in that country on its conquest by the Moorish Arabs, refused to accept the Roman Liturgy as a substitute for the Gothic Missal.

Missale Vallisumbrose, a splendid production of the Giunta Press, 1503, on vellum, illustrated with woodcuts and ornamental borders of great beauty.

Of the Sarum Missal, there are copies of the two editions of 1500 and 1504 on vellum, and of the Sarum Breviary, printed by Pynson.

Besides other Missals and Breviaries, there are numerous specimens of the smaller Service Books, which issued from the presses of Hardouin, Kerver, Pigouchet, Regnault, Verard and Vostre at Paris, and from those of Preller and Moravus at Naples.

A very rare copy in octodecimo of the 'Horae Beatae Virginis' in Greek, printed by Aldus in 1497, must further be mentioned.

The President, in his most interesting Inaugural Address, rightly remarked, that the treasures of a library can no longer be considered such when altogether hidden from public view. This, indeed, cannot be said of the Althorp Collection. Many of its rarest contents formed no inconsiderable part of the Caxton Exhibition of 1877. And it has often been a subject of great regret to Lord Spencer that the distance of Althorp from London has rendered the magnificent library which he has inherited less easy of access than he would wish. In endeavouring to give some account of its history and its contents, I have felt how impossible it has been within reasonable limits to do adequate justice to so important a subject; and I would express a hope that many of those whom I have had the honour of addressing may by a personal examination of its treasures become yet better acquainted with a library, which has justly been considered by the celebrated Aldine Bibliographer Renouard, 'as the richest private collection in Europe.'

CITY LIBRARIES.

By H. C. Richards, M.L.S.B.

Everyone knows the history of the Free Library at the Guildhall, and of the extended usefulness which followed its being opened in the evening and on Saturday afternoons; but few know that the pioneers in the movement were those who had already experienced the benefit of smaller libraries in the houses of business with which they were

connected. There are, as most of our readers are aware, a number of junior hands who live in and above the City warehouses in which they daily work, and in at least thirty of these large warehouses within the limits of the City proper there are well stocked libraries, and a constant supply of contemporary literature.

It would be difficult to say which was the first of these to be established, or which is the best model, but there is a wonderful similarity in their internal arrangements and working. Their basis of government is purely democratic, taxation and representation going hand in hand,—not manhood but subscribing suffrage. In the good old days when the General Post did not go off until eight or nine, the latter hour was the closing time for wholesale warehouses, even in the slack season; and therefore there was no need of books or libraries, for when business was over the employees were only too ready to go to bed, but with the advance of the early closing movement in the City, first to 7 P.M., and now as early as 5 P.M. in the winter, the wisest among the employers began to see the necessity of encouraging the young men to stop within doors, and of providing them with some of the comforts of a home. And as it is best not to deal in generalities, it will be my endeavour to trace the rise and progress of one of these libraries, with which the writer was personally acquainted, for as I have observed there is a great family likeness about their history and working.

Nearly thirty years have elapsed since the firm in question was appealed to, and by a generous donation from them, the first nucleus of a book store was started. From that time since the store of literature has been regularly and steadily increased, by devoting one half of the subscriptions to the preservation and replenishing of the Library, whilst the other half is devoted to the purchase of periodical literature, and to a large subscription to Mudie's, from whom all works of fiction (except those of a standard character), have to be procured. The subscription is generally two shillings to half a crown a member quarterly in advance, and the employers usually pay the subscription for their junior hands not in receipt of a salary. All the officers of the library are elected annually, and generally by ballot after a public meeting of the subscribers. With the exception of the Librarian the officers are honorary, and in some houses the *esprit de corps* is sufficient to secure this public spirited servant on the same terms.

The hon. secretary finds plenty to do in collecting the subscriptions *in advance*. He has to visit each member directly after salaries are paid, or else the many claims on a young man's monthly income diminish his chances of a well filled exchequer. At the quarterly meetings there is always an auction of the papers and magazines, and if party spirit can only be imparted into the contests, they are sure to fetch a high price.

At these gatherings the admission or rejection of all new books to the library, and the question of what papers are to be supplied is decided by open voting, and after a large amount of speech making. In fact it is at these meetings alone that the young men have any chance of lecturing or opposing their seniors, whose word in the house of business is law, but here may be controverted and opposed.

The greatest excitement in the history of a Wood Street Library, of nearly three thousand volumes, was the preparation of a catalogue, and the committee's action in preparing for the officers calf-bound copies. No addition to the Income Tax, or ordering of the Fleet to the Dardanelles ever created a more genuine popular indignation; and from the leading buyer to the boy in the entering desk, "calf-bounds" were the rallying cry for a long time to any and every Library meeting.

The incomes of these Libraries generally range from about £40. to £100. or £150.

per annum, and of course there is after all an inner circle which practically controls the class of works that quarter by quarter is added to the store. Now and then these quasi-literary selectors meet with a rebuff to their proposed selections in consequence of carrying their hobbies too far; but looking back over a selection of fifteen years it is wonderful to watch the periods of standard fiction, controversial, historical, and even ecclesiastical selections. In a large house in Wood Street, which shall be nameless, the admission of the "Guardian," or the proposed rejection of the "Nonconformist," would crowd any quarterly meeting.

The books are changed either every evening after business, or thrice a week, whilst the collection and delivery of the parcel from Mudie's is generally arranged by the Librarian in the warehouse itself. An analysis of the character of the books perused is always an interesting study, and the champion novel readers would get through from 100 to 115 volumes in the course of the year.

The library itself is not as a rule much patronized, as for quietude the men generally read in their bed-rooms, or over the dining-room fire; and in a house of about a hundred members, the daily exchange would average from three to a dozen works. Once a year all the works are called in, checked by the catalogue, and then repaired and reissued, and this annual stock-taking reveals pretty strongly that Dickens and Lytton are the favourite authors, whilst Thackeray is not far behind. There is generally a reference library easily accessible, containing dictionaries of all commercial languages, and the usual supply of gazetteers, &c. &c.

The very formation of these literary confederacies had a reflex influence on the Guildhall collection. Continually at the quarterly or annual meetings the question cropped up, Why was it that the Guildhall Library was only accessible in the very hours when every employee in a City house was occupied, and their libraries were opened when the Guildhall was closed?

Young men are always public spirited, and though perhaps not one in ten had entered the Guildhall Library, they were all prepared to break every barrier down, and in the autumn of one year a conference of the secretaries of five or six different libraries was held one evening in a ware room in Bread Street, and from that gathering a letter was sent to the secretary of every house in the City which had a library for its employees, and over thirty were found to possess such an institution. Each of these sent a representative, and in the course of two months, by the work of the hon. secretaries, over 6000 signatures were obtained from City employees, and the cost of the small but successful agitation was defrayed by a penny subscription. The result of the petition and the success of the movement is now ancient history, but at the request of the hon. secretary of the Library Association I undertook to write this short account of the formation and working of the numerous libraries in the City warehouses, of one of which I had the honour of being hon. secretary for five years, and afterwards President. In the somewhat mixed experiences I have since had of election and rejection by ballot, the excitement of those days at the annual counting of the ballot papers of officers for the ensuing year seems to have been but the herald of coming events casting their shadows before them.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

The January Monthly Meeting was held at the London Institution on January 2nd, at 8 p.m., Mr. George Bullen, V.P., in the chair.

It was announced that Mr. John W. Roberts, Librarian of the Public Library, Handsworth, had become a member of the Association.

The Chairman then called upon Dr. Richard Garnett to read his Paper entitled "A Memorandum by the late Rev. H. H. Baber on the Removal of the British Museum Library from Montague House." After a discussion, in the course of which Mr. Bullen undertook to set down upon paper for the "Chronicle" some of his reminiscences of the removal of the Library, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Dr. Garnett for his Paper.

The Meeting then adjourned.

The February Monthly Meeting will be held at the London Institution on February 6th, at 8 p.m., when a Paper will be read by the Secretary on "London Libraries in 1710."

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

BRADFORD.—Mr. B. Wood has received the appointment of Chief Librarian of the Bradford Free Library, at a salary of £150 per annum. Mr. H. L. Davies has also been appointed to the management of the Museum and Art Gallery, in the same premises, at a salary of £100 per annum. Both officials have been in the service of the Corporation for some years. Mr. Wood has been assistant to Mr. Virgo, the late Chief Librarian, since 1875, and Mr. Davies has been engaged in a minor capacity since 1871. We understand that the new catalogue of the lending department of the Library will be ready for sale in a few days. The preparation of the catalogue of the Reference Library has also been completed.

CHESTER.—On the 10th of December, the Town Council resolved, with only three dissentients, to rescind the resolution by which the reading and reference rooms of the Free Library were ordered to be open from 2 to 6 p.m. on Sundays from the 1st of October to the 31st of March. The Library Committee recommended this course in consequence of the smallness of the attendance. The attendances were on the several Sundays on which the rooms were open: 74; 67; 44; 45; 92; 51; 29; 23; 22; 29—making a total of 476 visits out of a population of 37,700.

DARLINGTON. — Mr. F. J. Burgoyne, sub-librarian of the Newcastle Public Libraries, has been appointed Librarian of the Free Library at Darlington.

GLASGOW: MITCHELL LIBRARY.—The issue of books at the Mitchell Library for the week ending Jan. 10, excluding the use of 220 current periodicals, was 13,437. The attendance of readers and issue of books for the week were greater than in any week since the opening of the Library. There was much overcrowding, and many persons were unable to find seats. The *Glasgow Herald* calls attention to these facts, and reiterates the demand for a suitable building. The endowment "by economy suffices to pay rent, to provide a very capable working staff, and to buy new books in moderation." But the building, two flats of which are occupied by the Library, besides being inadequate, "is not

centrally situated. It is exposed to danger from fire, and it smells badly of cheese, butter, ham, and other provisions, which, however good to eat, are unpleasant to sniff in quantity."

HUNTLY. — On the 14th January the Brander Library was formally opened by the Earl of Aberdeen, in presence of a large and representative audience including two of our members, Messrs. J. P. Edmond and A. W. Robertson, Public Librarian, Aberdeen, who were present by invitation. The Library, which has been established and is to be carried on out of part of the munificent gift vested by Mr. William Brander, now of London, for the behoof of the inhabitants of his birth-place, is lodged in a handsome and graceful building newly erected in the perpendicular Gothic style of architecture. Both externally and internally the building presents several interesting and attractive features, and besides affording admirable accommodation for the Library proper in a room, 54 feet long by 24 feet wide, contains reading-rooms and class-rooms for evening studies which it is proposed to carry on. The cost of the whole building has been only about £2,500. It is intended to provide shelf accommodation for over 20,000 volumes. Meanwhile a start is made with a little over 3,000 volumes, the selection of which as representative of the best of our English literature reflects credit on the trustees, and on Mr. Edmond. In his opening address the Earl of Aberdeen eulogized the generosity and intelligence of the donor, and emphasized his high estimate of the public boon he had conferred, by imparting some excellent suggestions on "what to read, when to read, and how to read."

LONDON : BRITISH MUSEUM. — The Article "Bunyan" (price 1s. 6d.) has been added to the Series of "Excerpts" from the General Catalogue.

Our readers will have received with much satisfaction the announcement that Her Majesty has been pleased to confer upon the Principal Librarian of the British Museum, the well-deserved honour of a Companionship of the Bath.

MANCHESTER : MEDICAL SOCIETY. — The annual meeting of this Society was held at Owen's College on Jan. 14th. The Society has just completed the fiftieth year of its existence. The Library now contains 28,118 volumes, besides a number of unbound pamphlets. During the year, 1530 volumes were issued to 170 members, and more than 7000 volumes were issued to students. A resolution of regret was passed on the resignation of the hon. secretary and librarian, Mr. C. J. Cullingworth, and Mr. F. A. Southam was elected in his place.

NOTTINGHAM: FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES. —A new reading-room for the St. Ann's district was opened in the Adelphi Buildings, Whitehead Street, on Wednesday, January 8th. This is the first of a series of seven branches to be provided out of the special grant of £1500 made by the Corporation with the view of encouraging a taste for reading amongst all classes. The room will be open from 10 o'clock a.m. to 9.30 p.m. and is furnished with a reference library of 250 volumes, and will be well supplied with newspapers and periodicals. The cost for the first year is estimated at about £150. There was a good attendance at the opening ceremony when Mr. T. R. Starey took the Chair, and gave an interesting sketch of the history of the Free Libraries. He mentioned that the Public Meeting held to consider the question of adopting the Acts was the only instance on record of the Acts being adopted with only one dissentient voice. He could name, he said, the gentleman who voted against the adoption of the Acts, for he was alive yet, and after the Library was opened no one took out more books than he did. Several other speakers followed, after which the Chairman formally declared the room to be open.

RICHMOND.—At the last meeting of the Free Library Committee the Chairman reported that information had been received from Southport and Wigan as to the voluntary library rates in those places, and it was suggested that a similar means of raising funds for the extension of the Library should be employed at Richmond. The following resolutions were then unanimously carried : That the Chairman be requested to move the Vestry at its next meeting :

> "That a voluntary rate of one halfpenny in the £ be made at once, under the conditions laid down in counsel's opinion on the rate.

"That an application be sanctioned to the Lord's Commissioners of the Treasury for permission to borrow a sum not exceeding £1,200 for the proposed extension of the library."

The following appeared in the *Western Antiquary* for November:—"The next meeting of the Library Association of the United Kingdom will be held at Plymouth, in September, 1885, and it is confidently anticipated that, not only will the members be pleased with the locality and interested in the district in which they will, for the first time meet, but that the West of England, may, in many ways, be benefited by the advent of so many experts in bibliography. The Free Library question will receive a more than ordinary share of attention at the meeting, and it would be well if the promoters of that movement in the various towns in the west would bestir themselves between this and the forthcoming visit of the L.A.U.K., in order that they may reap all possible advantage from the Conference. At present, we believe, there is not a single town in Cornwall which has adopted the Free Libraries Acts; surely the provisions of those Acts are as applicable to Cornish towns as to those of any other county, and we shall be glad to see the movement spread in that direction, giving all the help we can in the matter. In Devonshire—Plymouth, Devonport, Exeter, and Bideford have adopted the Acts; in some other places efforts have been made, but only of a partial character. Would not next year be a fitting time to try the effect of an agitation in some towns which are at present almost entirely without the advantages of news rooms and circulating libraries? We commend this matter to our friends throughout the three western counties, and trust that an effort recently made in Taunton, may, if repeated, result in success. It is, perhaps, somewhat premature to speak of the probable subjects to be dealt with at the Plymouth Meeting of the L.A.U.K., but as a paper on the Libraries of Devon and Cornwall may not be unacceptable, we would solicit any of our readers who are familiar with collections of books, either in public institutions or private residences, to send us notes thereon. May we also urge upon persons interested in bibliography and library work to become identified with the Association?"

One of our members who is well known for the share he has taken in social and political matters, Mr. H. C. Richards, a Member of the London School Board, has just published through Messrs. Waterlow Bros. & Layton, an annotated edition of the *City of London Parochial Charities Act*, 1883. By this Act it is provided that the general charity property of the parishes in the first schedule may, subject to the objects and purposes already properly served by them, be devoted to, amongst other things, "the establishment and maintenance of libraries;" and as to those parishes in the second schedule, amongst other things, to "the establishment and maintenance of libraries or museums or art collections within the metropolis, under such provisions as may make them useful to the poorer inhabitants thereof." The book is likely to be of great service to those who are interested in the carrying out of the Act.

FOREIGN.

Europe.

BERLIN.—The fourth frieze painted by Otto Knille for the Library of the University of Berlin is entitled: "Weimar, 1803," and represents a group of the foremost figures of that brilliant epoch of German letters. In the centre is a statue of Zeus, at whose feet kneels the Muse of Poetry, while Goethe leans against the pedestal. To the left of Goethe stand Tieck, Jean Paul Richter, Fichte, Hegel, H. von Kleist, Voss, Schlosser, Oken, Cornelius; whilst Pestalozzi, Klopstock,and Blumenbach are seated. On the right hand are the Humboldts, Schleiermacher, Gauss, W. von Schlegel, Gleim, Schiller, Klinger, standing, and, in a sitting attitude, Wieland, Niebuhr, Herder, and Iffland.

LEIPZIG.—The *Centralblatt* says that the Library of the Reichsgericht (the Supreme Court of Appeal) has grown from about 20,000 volumes in 1879 to 56,000. This increase necessitates the appointment of a sub-librarian who shall be "juristisch und bibliothekarisch vorgebildet" to assist Dr. Schulz. Some things are certainly better done in Germany than with us. One of the judges of our own High Court was complaining only the other day of the

dearth of law books at the Royal Courts. We fear it will be long before these Courts have an adequate library, and longer still before a librarian is appointed who shall be "juristisch vorgebildet."

PARIS: BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE.—The number of readers at the Bibliothèque Nationale, as we learn from the *Bulletin des Bibliothèques*, in the year 1883 was—in the Salle du Travail, 70,592, who used 257,549 volumes; in the Salle Publique de Lecture, 58,535, who used 85,819 volumes.

PARIS: BIBLIOTHÈQUES MUNICIPALES.—The *Bulletin* states that the number of volumes lent out in the year 1883 was 440,670; consulted in the libraries, 109,675; making a total of 550,340 volumes—a large increase on the previous year, when the total issues were 401,410. The percentage of fiction issued was about 56. The number of volumes in the libraries rose from 86,513 in 1882 to 100,247 in 1883. An interesting calculation made by the Préfecture as to the proportion of their municipal income devoted by several towns to their libraries, shows that Boston (U. S.) spends .55 % of its income on libraries; Manchester, 1.79 %; Liverpool, 2.38 %; Birmingham, 3.13 %; Bolton, 3.4 %; while Paris spends only .16 %. We do not guarantee the correctness of these figures, which we take as we find them; but it is noteworthy that such a comparison has been instituted by the municipal authorities of Paris.

Australia.

ADELAIDE.—From the "Final Report of the South Australian Institute for the nine months ended June 30th, 1884," we learn that on that day the Institute ceased to exist, being replaced by the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery established by an Act of the Legislature. The report gives a brief history of the Institute from its establishment in 1856. It was supported partly by Government grants, and partly by the subscriptions of members. Its income for the last year of its existence, including balances, was £19,493 11s. 7d. Of the 26,184 volumes in the Library, 12,391, which seemed most suitable for a public Library, have been transferred to the new Library, the rest being left for the Adelaide Circulating Library. The total number of volumes in the new Library is already about 23,000. In concluding their report, the Governors, as the mouthpiece of their predecessors, observe that "the South Australian Institute has done good work in its day, and has been instrumental in scattering the seeds of intellectual cultivation and development far and wide over the colony. The Board now hand over their trust to their successors with the earnest hope and full confidence that in the future, with a higher prestige and larger means, they will realise to the utmost the ends for which the South Australian Institute was established in 1856."

BRISBANE.—Mr. D. O'Donovan, the Parliamentary Librarian of Queensland, writes: "You will be glad to hear that in this colony £40,000 have been put on the Loan Estimates for a Public Library and Museum. We have a Museum at present, but the building, though erected within the last few years, is already quite inadequate to house the collection we possess, and is every year, of course, growing more so. It is a common error in these colonies, on the part of those who design our public buildings, and more especially on the part of the Parliaments which vote money for them, to look a very short way ahead. The consequence is that with our rapid growth most of our buildings become, in a very few years, miserably unfit for the purposes for which they were erected. Even the sum now proposed to be spent on a building which is to accommodate at once a Library and Museum, and no doubt will soon be required to find space for an Art Gallery, is much lower than it should be; but it is well that a beginning of any kind should be made in the direction of furnishing the people with a free Library, and from this point of view I have no doubt you will look on the news as satisfactory."

SYDNEY.—A contract has been made for alterations and additions to the Public Library, the cost of which is estimated at over £12,000. The present building will be partly pulled down, and the new one is to be three storeys high, with a massive stone front.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Cheltenham. Cheltenham Public Library. Catalogue of the lending department; compiled by William Jones, chief librarian. Cheltenham, 1884. 8vo. pp. viii. 51. Price 6d.

Short titles, printed in double columns, with authors, titles and subjects in one alphabet. The contents of magazines and collected essays are set out. There are some strange omissions: for instance, the writings of Adam Smith, Burke, Shelley, Tennyson, Milton, Pope, and Chaucer are not in the library.

Leek. The Nicholson Institute, Leek. Established 1884. Catalogue of the Library. Leek, 1884. 4to. pp. 183.

Short titles, arranged under author, subject and title-entries. It is, however, misleading to say that this is "the system approved by the Library Association of the United Kingdom." The Association has never decided in favour of any form of Catalogue, "Dictionary," or otherwise.

Leeds. Fourteenth Annual Report of the Leeds Free Public Library and Museum, 1883-4, established 1868, under the Act of 1855. James Yates, librarian and curator. Leeds, 1884. 8vo. pp. 26.

The total number of vols. in the libraries is now 128,106. The issues were 652,594, being an increase of 10,000 vols. The chief feature of the year has been the removal to the new municipal buildings, a change very beneficial alike to the public and the officials. There is now more space for books, better ventilation, and the electric lighting. On June 5 the News Room (1st floor) was opened. The Lending Library (2nd floor) of 31,000 vols. was made available for readers on June 18, after having been closed for 2 working days only, a remarkable instance of rapid removal. On July 2, the Reference Library (3rd floor) of 32,000 vols. was opened. The issues in the Reference Library were 78,986 during the year, showing an increase of 5,153, chiefly in the direction of more serious reading. The central Lending Library issued 275,885 vols., being more than 10,000 over the previous year; and the Branch Lending Librares 297,723 vols., being over 4,000 less than the year before. The Museum is a new department, the total number of visitors was 6,855, averaging 457 each day. 2,298 worn out vols. were eliminated. During the last three years 6,000 such vols. have been thus weeded. The balance sheet shows that £6,389 7s. 8d. was expended, carrying over £644 8s. 11d. The penny rate produced £4,805 8s. 8d., vouchers £83 8s. 11d., catalogues £44 17s. 7d., and fines for detention £290 16s. 2d. A sum of £2,233 15s. 7d. was spent in books, and £544 16s. 2d. in binding.

St. Helens. Borough of St. Helens. Seventh Annual Report of the Committee of the St. Helens Free Public Library, 1883-4, St. Helens, 1884. 8vo. pp. 16.

The number of vols. is now 10,155. The issues in the lending and reference departments were 66,573, showing an increase of 6,377. The Sunday visitors numbered 7,606. The total receipts amounted to £681 18s. 9d., of which the borough fund contributed £645 3s. 2d.; £180 8s. was spent in books, and £32 3s. 10d. in binding.

Swansea. Borough of Swansea. Tenth Annual Report of the Public Library and Gallery of Art Committee, 1883-4. Swansea, 1884. 8vo. pp. 26.

Plans for the new building have been adopted, and tenders accepted. The vols. in the reference department amount to 17,933; the year's issues were 74,862. In the lending department there are 7,367 vols., and the issues were 52,145. Mr. Deffett Francis has presented a large number of works of art. A list of deficiencies in periodicals is supplied. No financial information.

West Bromwich. Borough of West Bromwich. Tenth Report of the Free Library Committee, 1884. West Bromwich [1884]. 8vo. pp. 34.

The stock of the lending department is now 10,701 vols., and of the reference department 2,250. The vols. lent out numbered 52,409. A subscription library has been added, with 80 subscribers; after two years the books become the property of the Corporation. The attendance at the three branches continues good.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Catalogue of the Library of the Statistical Society. With Preface and regulations, 1884. London: Edward Stanford. La. 8vo., pp. iv. 573+.

The Catalogue of an important Special Collection is at the same time a contribution to bibliography. The last Catalogue of the Statistical Society's library was published in 1859, and the present Catalogue is placed in the hands of the Society in the fiftieth year of its existence. The collection numbers nearly 20,000 volumes, and the catalogue of its contents has been prepared in accordance with a set of rules "based upon those of the Library Association of the United Kingdom." It is clearly and handsomely printed. It was proposed to add an index of subjects, but this is for the present postponed.

De bibliothecariis Alexandrinis qui feruntur primis. Scripsit Gulielmus Busch. Suerini Megalopolitanorum: typis E. Herbergeri, MDCCCLXXXIV. 8vo., pp. ii. 57. M. 1, 50.

Busch discusses with much elaborateness the succession of the early librarians of the Library at Alexandria, which had been previously discussed by Ritschl and Seeman. He tries to show that the four first librarians were, 1. Zenodotus; 2. Eratosthenes; 3. Aristophanes; 4. Aristarchus, and thus excludes from the succession Callimachus and Apollonius, who are usually placed before and after Eratosthenes. This is hardly the place to discuss the subject, to which we may perhaps return.

It is due to an unfortunate misunderstanding that the account of the Althorp Library which Lord Charles Bruce read at the Dublin Meeting of the Library Association is published in another journal. Under these circumstances it has been thought well to depart somewhat from our usual custom and print the paper in full in the CHRONICLE, instead of waiting for its tardier issue in the Transactions, and his lordship has readily assented to this arrangement.

The *Library Journal* for December contains a Supplement to "A Modern Proteus," by J. L. Whitney. The *Journal* announces that the Co-operative Index to Periodicals will, for 1885, be issued quarterly, and will be extended to include all the periodicals indexed by Mr. Poole.

The January number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* begins a second volume. It contains articles by Dr. Adolf Keysser of Cologne, "Ueber die Einrichtung der alphabetischen Hauptkataloge öffentlicher Bibliotheken;" by W. Meyer on "Ein altitalienischer Kupferstich aus dem Nachlasse Hartmann Schedels;" and by Falk on "Der Tractatus de sacrificio missae, Moguntiæ." The list of the librarians in German libraries is continued, and the usual notes, news and notices complete the number.

We have received a report made to the trustees of the Russell Library, Middleton, Conn., by G. F. Winchester, the Librarian, which has been printed as a plea for "Public Support of the Free Public Library." The library was established by Mrs. Russell, who besides the building and some 7000 books, gave $40,000, on the income of which the library has had to depend, having no public grant or support from subscriptions. Mr. Winchester has added an interesting table showing the "statistics of thirty-six free Public Libraries in the States," which he has taken the trouble to collect at first hand.

Two numbers have been issued of the "*Bulletin des Bibliothèques et des Archives*, publié sous les auspices du Ministère de l'Instruction publique" (Paris: H. Champion). They contain much valuable and interesting matter, and we hope to give a full account of them in our next issue.

A noteworthy feature in the new series of *Time* (which is now published by Messrs. W. Swan Sonnenschein & Co.) is the Bibliography of Best Books arranged "under scientifically classified Subject-Headings." The main classes are: A. Christian Religion; B. Non-Christian Religion; C. Philosophy; D. Society; E. Geography; F. History; G. Biography; H. Science; I. Arts and Trades, and K. Literature.

It is mentioned in *The Academy* that Bodley's Librarian has shown his acceptance of Mr. C. E. Doble's conclusions as to the authorship of the "Whole Duty of Man" by placing it under the name of Dr. Richard Allestree in the Bodleian Catalogue. Mr. Doble contributed three long and interesting articles on the subject to *The Academy* in November, 1882.

At the meeting of the Manchester Literary Club on Jan. 12th a paper was read by Mr. J. E. Bailey on "Richard de Bury and his 'Philobiblon.'" In a leading article, the *Manchester Guardian* says: "Although Richard de Bury has been remembered and praised by many, and although the manuscript and printed copies of his book are numerous, five centuries have passed away without the appearance of a critical edition of the text, or of an adequate biography of a man who was eminent as a Churchman, as a statesman, as a scholar, and as the collector of a valuable library solemnly dedicated to public uses. . . . We are glad that it has fallen to two Manchester scholars to do full justice to the book-loving Bishop."

Notes and Queries.

Notes.

ANONYMOUS BOOKS (L. C. vol. i. p. 204).—*Collieries and the Coal Trade*, 1841. The above title seems to refer to the work mentioned below, of which a second edition was published in 1841, and of which the author was *John Holland*, author of *Treatise on Manufactures in Metal* in Lardner's *Cabinet Cyclopædia*. *The History and Description of Fossil Fuel, the Collieries, and Coal Trade of Great Britain.* 8vo. Whittaker & Co., London, 1835. [First edition.] T. W. NEWTON.

The *Jewish Chronicle* states that "Wanderer," author of *Across Country* and *Fair Dianas*, continuer of the "Jorrock's" series of amusing sporting novels, is Mr. E. H. d'Avigdon, B.A., a nephew of the late Sir Francis Goldsmid. I. D.

Correspondence.

VILLAGE LIBRARIES.

The Vicarage, Selmeston, Polegate, 16*th Dec.*, 1884.

The Chichester Diocesan Conference has appointed an influential Committee to enquire into, and report to the Conference at its next meeting in October, 1885, upon the best method of improving and extending the influence of Village Libraries.

The subject is an important one at this time, when political privileges are, for the first time, to be exercised by agricultural labourers. As one of the Committee, I have undertaken to communicate with the Library Association, to request them to take up the subject. I shall be glad if you would kindly lay my letter before the Council, with a hope that they may consider the question of *Libraries in Rural Districts*, with a view to an instructive discussion at the next annual Conference.

W. D. PARISH (*Chancellor of Chichester Cathedral*).

PRINTER'S ERRORS.

Moray House, 26, Strand, Derby, *November* 18*th*, 1884.

I can send you a funnier misprint than the one of Devil for Deuil which you quote in *The Library Chronicle* of October. It occurs in Cassell's "Red Library" Edition of Lever's *Harry Lorrequer*, at page 310, where the printer makes the hero say "I fell into a kind of half dozen!" This edition, though handsomely printed on good paper, is full of misprints. FRANK MURRAY.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. DAVY & SONS, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 8*s*.

The Library Chronicle.

CATALOGUING RULES OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

(*As Revised at Liverpool*, 1883.)

Title.

TITLE and imprint entries are to be as far as possible in the language of the title, alterations and additions being enclosed in square brackets.

2. The title is to be an exact transcript from the title-page, neither amended, translated, nor in any way altered, except that mottoes, repetitions, and matter of any kind not essential may be omitted, omissions to be indicated by a group of three dots (. . .). The typography and punctuation of the title need not be strictly adhered to.

3. The titles of books especially valuable for antiquity or rarity may be given in full, with the exact punctuation.

4. In English, initial capitals are to be given to proper names of persons and personifications, places, bodies, noted events, and periods; to adjectives and other words derived from proper names when they have a direct reference to the person, place, &c., from which they are derived; to the first word of every quoted title of a work; to titles of honour, when standing instead of a proper name (*e.g.*, Earl of Derby, but John Stanley, earl of Derby).

5. In foreign languages the use of capitals is to follow the local practice.

6. In doubtful cases capitals are to be avoided.

Volumes, Size, Place, Date, &c.

7. Other particulars are to be given after the title in the following order, those printed in italics being optional:—

(*a*) The edition as specified on the title-page.

(*b*) The number of volumes, if more than one.

(*c*) *If there be only one volume, the number of pages to be indicated by giving the number of each pagination, connecting the numbers by the sign + ; the same sign added at the end indicating additional unpaged matter other than advertisements.*

(*d*) *The number of separate illustrations, maps, or portraits.*

(*e*) The size.

(*f*) The place of publication, *the place of printing, when different from that of publication, and the publisher's name.*

(*g*) The year as given on the title-page, but in Arabic figures; *the year of actual publication, if known to be different, being added in square brackets.*

Contents and Notes.

8. Contents of volumes are to be given when expedient, and in smaller type.

9. Notes explanatory or illustrative, or descriptive of bibliographical and other peculiarities, including imperfections, to be subjoined when necessary; tables of contents and notes to be in smaller type.

Headings.

Books are to be entered—

10. Under the surnames of authors when stated on the title-page, or otherwise certainly known, with the fore-name in brackets; a name not stated in the book or in a subsequent edition of it to be placed within square brackets, and all anonymous works to have the abbreviation "Anon." added.

11. Under the initials of authors' names when these only are known, the last initial being put first.

12. Under the pseudonyms of the writers, with a cross-reference from the real name when known.

13. Under the names of editors of collections, and under the catch-titles of such collections, with cross-references from the separate items.

14. Under the names of countries and cities, societies, &c., which authorize their publication.

15. Under the first word, not an article, of the titles of periodicals.

16. Under the chief subject-word of the titles of anonymous books, and, where advisable, with a cross-reference under any other noticeable word.

17. Commentaries with the text, and translations, are to be entered under the heading of the original work; but commentaries without the text under the name of the commentator.

18. The Bible, or any part of it (including the Apocrypha) in any language, is to be under the word "Bible," the separate parts classed in the order of the authorized version, polyglots and original text coming first, followed by English translations; the other versions in alphabet of names of the languages.

19. The Talmud and Koran (and parts of them) are to be entered under those words; the sacred books of other religions are to be entered under the names by which they are generally known; cross-references to be given from the names of editors, translators, &c.

20. Service and Prayer-Books used by any religious community are to be placed under the head of Liturgies, with a sub-head of the religious community.

21. Books having more than one author or editor are to be entered under the one first-named in the title, with a cross-reference under each of the others.

22. Names of translators, commentators, editors, and preface writers, if they do not occur in the title-page, may be added within square brackets, a cross-reference being made in each case.

23. The respondent or defender of an academical thesis is to be considered as the

author, unless the work unequivocally appears to be the work of the præses. It should be noticed that sometimes the respondent and defender are joint authors.

24. Reports of civil actions are to be entered under the name of the party to the suit which stands first on the title-page. Reports of Crown and criminal proceedings are to be entered under the name of the defendant. Admiralty proceedings relating to vessels are to be entered under the name of the vessel.

25. Catalogues are to be entered under the name of the institution, or owner of the collection, with a cross-reference from the compiler.

26. Noblemen are to be entered under the title, except when the family name is better known, a cross-reference under the title being made in every case.

27. Ecclesiastical dignitaries, unless popes or sovereign princes, are to be entered under their surnames; the highest title to be added, with a cross-reference from the title employed in the book.

28. All persons generally known by a fore-name are to be so entered, the English form being used in the case of sovereigns, popes, ruling princes, Oriental writers, friars, and persons canonized.

29. Married women, and other persons who have changed their names, to be put under the name best known, with a cross-reference from the last authorized name.

30. In the heading of titles, the names of authors are to be given in full, and in their vernacular form; authors, generally known under their Latin or Latinized names, are to be entered under those names, the vernacular name being added after the first entry, and a cross-reference being made.

31. English and French surnames beginning with a prefix (except the French de and d') are to be recorded under the prefix; in other languages, under the word following.

32. English compound surnames are to be entered under the last part of the name; foreign ones under the first part, cross-references being given in all instances.

33. When an author has been known by more than one name, references should be inserted from the name or names not used as headings to the one used.

34. A society is to be entered under the first word, not an article, of its corporate name, with references to any other name by which it is known, *and from the name of the place where its headquarters are established.*

Miscellaneous.

35. The heading is not to be repeated; a single indent or dash indicates the omission of the preceding heading or title. A dash following a number signifies continuation.

36. Entries under the surname only are to precede fuller entries under the same name; where the initials only of the fore-names are given, they are to precede full entries with the same initials.

37. Abbreviated prefixes, such as M' and Mc, S., St., Ste., Messrs., Mr., and Mrs., are to be arranged as if written in full, Mac, Sanctus, Saint, Sainte, Messieurs, Mister, and Mistress.

38. The works of an author are to be arranged in the following order:—

(*a*) Collected works.

(*b*) Partial collections.

(*c*) Individual works in alphabetical order of titles, under the first word, not an article or a preposition having the meaning of "concerning."

Translations are to follow the originals in alphabetical order of languages. General cross-references are to come last.

39. Cross-references are to be given from the subjects of biographies or of books illustrating the lives and works of individuals to the writers.

40. The order of alphabetization is to be that of the English alphabet.

41. In composite headings the first word is alone to be considered.

42. Names of persons are to precede similar names of places.

43. Titles in foreign characters may be transliterated.

44. The German ä, ö, ü, are to be arranged as if written out in full, ae, oe, ue.

45. Arabic figures are to be used rather than Roman; but Roman figures may be used after the names of sovereigns, princes, and popes, and may be used to designate the number of a volume, followed by a page number.

46. Designations are to be added to distinguish writers of the same name from each other.

47. Prefixes indicating the rank or profession of writers may be added in the heading, when they are part of the usual designation of the writers.

48. The languages in which a book is written are to be stated when there are more than one, and the fact is not mentioned in the title-page.

CLUB AND INSTITUTE LIBRARIES.

By Samuel Smith, City Librarian, Worcester.[1]

An American writer has rightly said that, "It is a wise book that is good from title-page to the end." Therefore I have endeavoured, within a compass of a very short paper, to throw out a few suggestions as to the formation and management of Workmen's Club and Institute Libraries.

Having had considerable experience of the working of free libraries which after all is said and done are but Club and Institute libraries on a larger scale, I propose to deal with the practical, rather than the theoretical side of the question.

The history of these useful institutions must be told as pithily as possible. It is now over fifty years ago since Mechanics' Institutes were first started to meet the ever-growing demand for education among the toiling portion of our countrymen; but, admirable as these institutions are, they have failed to altogether meet the popular wants, and another class of institutions called the "Working Men's Association" came into existence twenty-five years ago. This movement has since grown into the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, with which I believe that I am correct in saying the Worcestershire Union is connected. In 1847 another excellent society was started, "the object of which was to introduce libraries into manufactories, to further the social and moral improvement of workmen, imposing one condition only, "that no books of a sectarian, or demoralising tendency should be afterwards admitted." Unfortunately this organization has ceased to exist, but there are at the present time many large factories with libraries for the workpeople, five of which libraries contain over 11,000 vols.

[1] Read at the Annual Meeting of the Worcestershire Union of Workmen's Clubs and Institutes.

But returning to the subject of Club and Institute Libraries, I will now say a few words as to their formation. In our Report[1] of last year I find that it is stated "that the union boxes form almost the entire Library of a full third of the Institutions in union." No one can read the titles of the books in the boxes belonging to the Union without at once acknowledging the wise choice and great care that have been exercised in the selection of these useful adjuncts to permanent Libraries. All our best novelists are represented, and as Thackeray says, "Novels are sweets. All people with healthy literary appetites love them—almost all women; a vast number of clever, hard-headed men, judges, bishops, chancellors, mathematicians, are notorious novel-readers, as well as young boys, and sweet girls, and their kind, tender mothers." Biography, History, Voyages and Travels, Periodicals, Science, are also all represented, and that most worthily, in the union boxes. I know that my notion is sure to be condemned as Quixotic, but I should certainly like to see a permanent library in every club-house in addition to the travelling box. I do not think that it would be a very difficult matter to collect and purchase 50 to 100 vols. for every club or institute in Worcestershire. Interest the ladies and the clergy, ever ready to assist in all good works, by asking their assistance in collecting money and books. Let the Librarian be a man of fair education, with a love of books and book readers, good tempered, and punctual at his post at the hour appointed. In the purchase of books, great care should be taken to only buy such books as will find readers. It may sound heretical, but I would much rather find on the shelves of the library of a Workmen's Club, a good and interesting history of our own country such as McCarthy's "History of Our Own Times," than Gibbon's "Decline and fall of the Roman Empire." A few good works of Reference are absolutely necessary, even if their purchase prevents many books being added to the library for home-reading. I need only specify a few, such as Bartlett's Familiar Quotations; an Atlas (easily to be had both good and cheap); Chambers's Cyclopædia; and last though not least, a good English Dictionary. In purchasing books it should always be remembered that the R. T. S. offers books at half prices; so does the Pure Literature Society through a Subscriber; and the Book Society makes liberal offers. The surplus catalogues of Messrs. Mudie and W. H. Smith and Son offer very cheap books, and afford one of the very best means of obtaining good books at small cost. Catalogues of second-hand books and the bookstalls should not be overlooked. My experience has taught me that it is a mistake for popular libraries to purchase works in more than 3 vols. I do not include novels even in this limit, for single volume editions are undoubtedly the best. Not one reader in a thousand who begins to read Froude or Lingard ever finishes the 12th or the 10th vol. of these works. Vol. 1 may even be worn out, but the last vol. is in first-rate condition. Dry books are too often the bane of popular libraries. Who can be attracted by such titles as "Stone's History of the Neolithic Ages." "Stock's History of the Idolaters," "Long's Essay on the Laws of Descent," or "Drone's Conspectus of Future Civilization?" Specialists and Students may find ample material in such works but they are decidedly out of place in a workmen's library. Unfortunately too many of the books presented to libraries are the off-scourings of the donor's shelves. Such a stock would rather disgust than entice a man with a healthy appetite for reading. Alexander Everett used to say "Books must be legible. You might as well write with white ink on white paper, or with blue ink on

[1] Annual Report of the Worcestershire Union of Workmen's Clubs and Institutes.

blue paper, as write so as to put the reader to sleep, or in any way discourage him from reading." The American preacher and lecturer Joseph Cook has said that the volumes which contain the chief weight of English literature can be put into a book-case five feet square, and that "Of the greatest books there are not over a hundred in the mother tongue in which any man is born." A club or institute library containing a hundred of the best works of our greatest English authors would be an inestimable boon, but of course with a few exceptions it is at the present time hopeless to expect to find such libraries. It must not be understood that under the phrase of "dry" books, all scientific works are included, for science is now presented to us in a form that a youth or man possessed of only the most elementary education can read and understand. Messrs. Macmillan have published a series of Science primers written by the first men of the day in such a manner that a child can read them with pleasure and profit. Books relating to the staple trades and manufactures of the district in which the Club is situate should also be provided. "Let those" says a recent writer, "who pride themselves upon their devotion to the so-called practical, reflect that the advantages of a library are no longer of a purely literary character, and are becoming less and less so; that the 'arts and mysteries' of manufacture are no longer taught by word of mouth alone to indentured apprentices, but that the 'master workmen' of the 19th century speak through books to all; and that in proportion as our workmen become intelligent and skilful does their labour increase in value to themselves and to the State."

A catalogue (MS. or printed) as plain and simple as possible should be readily accessible. The classification must not be complicated, in order that the books may be readily found. A copy of the catalogue arranged on the dictionary plan giving authors, titles, and subjects in one alphabet, with as much information as possible relating to the works contained in the Library, should be in the Librarian's possession not only for his own use, but for that of any studious reader. A simple form of issue-book gives in one line the following particulars:—Date when issued; Name of Borrower; Number; When returned; Remarks as to Condition, &c. If a borrower should be disappointed in not obtaining any given work owing to its being out in circulation, repairing, &c. the title should be entered in a "Bespoke Book," so that it may be given to the applicant early, and it will also be found that such a record book will be useful in guiding future purchasers. The books may be stamped either with an embossing stamp or a cheap rubber stamp. My experience of book-binding is that it is a wise policy to have all the popular books strongly half bound in morocco, with cloth sides, and a tape fixed to serve as marker. See that each section is stitched through from end to end, and carried round the raised bands.

The reading-room is generally one of the most popular features of a Club or Institute, and is a useful stepping-stone to the use of the library. The dictionary, atlas and cyclopædia should all be at hand in order that readers may be encouraged to constantly use them, and to never pass a word the meaning of which is not clearly understood. The newspapers of to-day teem with information. There are city dailies, rural weeklies, agricultural and specialist organs, and from their columns much may be learned. In addition to newspapers, periodicals and magazines are also to be found on the tables of the reading-room. It is better to buy only two or three of the first class monthlies, than to cover the tables with many of the cheaper and smaller periodicals "weak, meagre and platitudinous." "A Magazine" says Webster "is a store-house, a granary, a cellar, a warehouse in which anything is stored or deposited,"

and the best magazines are indeed store-houses of well-selected mental food. A word as to the room itself; no matter how poorly furnished it may be, try to make it cheerful; a good fire in the winter months, a few cheap prints on the walls, and plenty of good reading matter on the tables will be sure to attract visitors.

In Dr. Robert Elliott's admirable paper read before the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science at the Dublin meeting of that body, I find many suggestions for increasing the usefulness of reading-rooms. Among the suggestions may be noted: 1. That the rooms should be exclusively controlled by men dependent on weekly wages. 2. That the rooms being numerous are various in principles and constitution, are in the vicinity of their dwellings, require no great preparation of dress, give to perhaps every member each his turn in the government,—thus imparting a sense of responsibility, cultivation, habits of prudence and discretion, and fostering the vitally important qualities (so comparatively rare among the labouring classes) of self-respect and self-reliance, and building up an independence of character, a force of thought, a facility of expressing ideas, and sound business habits; all of which seem naturally to arise out of the fact of the institution being managed *by*, and not for them. 3. In these rooms instruction of the plainest and most elementary kind is afforded, at appointed times; and as many of the members, on joining, cannot even read, provision is made for reading newspapers aloud at stated times. 4. That the payments are taken each week; and such of the members as may be temporarily, and for however long, unable to afford the weekly penny, are, by a fundamental rule, exempted both from payment and debt—a rule that has been found to work most admirably. I do not commit myself to all Dr. Elliott's suggestions, but the success of the movement was most marked at Carlisle, in which city the experiment had been tried on the lines just read. It is, as Mr. Wall warmly expresses himself, "a great victory to get men to pay a first visit to these reading-rooms, and inhale their influence." Even free libraries, howsoever useful to the poor student, have not been found to meet the peculiar case of the great bulk of working men as these rooms have. Much good might be done in the way of inducing men to read, by the clergyman, schoolmaster, or well-read tradesman or artisan, for there are not a few of the latter fully competent to do the work, if one, or all, of these gentlemen would devote an evening occasionally to what might be called "A Talk about Books." The permanent library, or the travelling box would alike furnish ample material for such a fire-side chat, which after all is the most enjoyable form of lecturing with a view to imparting knowledge. Mr. Ismay's chats on local historical topics have been highly appreciated, and something of the same free and easy character on such a grand subject as "Books" would be a by no means difficult task to prepare and deliver. I have often been asked to suggest a course of reading, but I am sorry to say that my experience has proved such suggestions to be useless. Various reasons are given by the reader for not persevering through the course, but in 99 cases out of a 100 he never finishes what was so well begun. Numerous hand-books of English literature have been published, and a good one should be found in every club library. Let the studiously inclined reader carefully study this, and even if his future reading be of a rather desultory character, he cannot fail to gather many crumbs of valuable information, or to find himself made a nobler and a better man, as he increases his store from the great fountains of knowledge. The great objection to a set course of reading is in the fact that the reader feels himself tied by irksome bonds, and that which should be a

pleasure soon becomes a task. Too much is often said about the self-taught genius, for there are thousands of men living at the present time possessed of far greater knowledge than was ever in the power of Hugh Miller, George Stephenson, James Hogg, or Robert Burns. Yet there are even now enthusiasts who preach to village lads, holding out to them the prospect of earning names of world-wide fame, forgetting that although "knowledge is power" it requires a spark of genius to set the world aflame. Genius will soon make its way in the world, but as the world is peopled with millions who can never hope to be classed in such high company, the best advice is for every one to strive after self-improvement without becoming dissatisfied with the state in life to which God has been pleased to call them.

We will now give a passing glance at one or two suggestions which have been made by a brother librarian, Mr. Wright of Plymouth, with a view to increasing the scope and usefulness of small libraries. He has suggested that the Free Public Libraries Acts should be extended so as to enable the smaller towns and villages to co-operate in availing themselves of its privileges: "*First*, By the union of small towns around a central one for mutual help. Thus, in a district in which a large city or town has within a radius of twenty miles a number of small towns or villages, not one of which is wealthy enough to start and support an institution by itself, a central depôt might be established, with branches in the outlying districts, from which supplies could be drawn; a continued exchange and interchange of the best books might thus be obtainable, while branch reading-rooms might be supplied in a similar manner." To put the matter plainly, a county rate of one penny in the pound would have to be compulsorily raised to defray these expenses. The City of Worcester has already adopted the Public Libraries Acts, and if the scheme I have just mentioned is ever carried out, Worcester would naturally be the centre from which Evesham, Pershore, Bewdley, Droitwich, and the other local towns and villages would receive their supplies.

Another suggestion is, that as the State compels and assists the ratepayers to establish schools, it should go a step farther, and compel the establishment of libraries, and also make grants to help to maintain them efficiently. Mr. F. B. Perkins, in the American Library Report, says, under the head of Maintenance, "The circumstances of the case must determine how each library is (financially) created and maintained. But there is one excellent practical rule, already proved healthy and efficient in its application to common schools, which ought to be applied to public libraries as far as possible. It is this: That the community as such (that is, by public money, not through fees paid to the library) should pay something for its privileges. Unrestricted gifts to the public, like unrestricted charity to paupers and beggars, are almost certain to be undervalued, if not abused. In our best school systems the receipt of the State money by a town for school purposes depends more or less on the energy with which the town raises money of its own. God helps those who help themselves. The State finds it safe to imitate the Divine example in this particular; and so in the case of libraries. A State grant for the purpose, to depend on the raising of a proper yearly amount by the town, is the most American, that is, the most direct and effective method of promoting the library department of our systems of public education. On precisely the same principle private gifts for the same purpose should be upon the same condition. This plan secures not only beginning but continuance: not only birth but healthy life. It is comparatively easy to produce a revival, either in religion or literature, and thus to

found a church or a library; the real task is to maintain it in its proper growth and health afterwards." In the annual report of the Trustees of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of the Colony of Victoria for 1883, I find that 6,800 vols. were sent from Melbourne, where the chief library is situate, to 35 local institute libraries up country. The total cost for books and bookbinding was under £2,000. The Library at Boston is now supplying small libraries to schools, and Mr. C. M. Downes, for some years the energetic hon. secretary of the institution with which I have the honour to be connected, has proposed to supply the elementary schools in the City of Worcester with school libraries. The question is whether it would not be a great boon to the community if rate and State supported libraries were to be made compulsory, and thus every town and village be provided with the best of libraries.

"Let it not be thought that a town library is only a luxury for great cities or rich communities, 'for in the work of popular education through libraries it is, after all, not the few great libraries, but the thousand small that may do most for the people.' The thing to do is to make a beginning of a local library. If your community has none, it ought to be thoroughly ashamed of itself. There must be ten good books in it, or the money to buy them. Gather these together and start a library at once; the life of the whole neighbourhood will immediately be made that much the nobler and stronger."

A FRENCH LIBRARY JOURNAL.

THE publication of a *Bulletin* of Libraries and Archives, issued under the auspices of the French Ministry of Public Instruction, is an event which calls for more than a passing notice. As our readers are aware, the oversight of French libraries is entrusted to this department, and that of the various establishments devoted to the care of archives has recently been transferred from the charge of the Ministry of the Interior to that of Public Instruction, so that all institutions of both classes are now under the same central control. The circumstances under which this new journal is issued are nowhere very precisely stated, although it is understood that it takes the place of the *Cabinet Historique*, which has ceased to appear.

The new journal, of which two numbers are before us, consists of two parts. The first part, or "Partie Officielle," consists of laws, decrees, and other official documents and announcements under the head of "I. Administration et Législation;" and of appointments and promotions among library officials under the head of, "II. Personnel."

Under the former head we find amongst other things the law by which the direction of the archives is transferred to the Ministry of Public Instruction and the necessary financial arrangements are made, with the decree of the President carrying these changes into effect, dated 21 March, 1884. There is also an important circular of instructions for the pagination of the MSS. in such libraries as have as yet unpaged MSS. The number of personal announcements made in the two numbers is very considerable, and occupies many pages.

After this official portion follows a more extensive and miscellaneous section under the general title of "Chronique." In this section is to be found a mass of information

as to some of the libraries and archives of Paris and the departments. There is a long extract from a report of M. H. Omont on the Greek MSS. of the Bibliothèque Nationale, from which we learn that it possesses no less than 4,589 vols. of Greek MSS. (The Vatican is said to have 3,559, and to be the next largest collection; the British Museum is said to have 716). There are some curious notes on MSS. which have disappeared from the Bibliothèque Nationale. Some of these have since turned up in other Libraries; one is mentioned as being now in the British Museum, while no less than seven can be identified as now in the Imperial Library at St. Petersburg. Some missing leaves of the oldest MS. of Cedrenus have recently been recovered by M. Léopold Delisle from the University Library of Basel. The total number of Greek MSS. missing is said to be *thirteen.* Some statistics of the use made of the Bibliothèque Nationale are also furnished showing that the total number of readers has slowly risen from 122,870 in 1879 to 129,127 in 1883. M. Alfred Franklin gives a full account of the state of the Cataloguing work at the Bibliothèque Mazarine, and M. Molinier reports upon its manuscripts, which number 4,432 volumes.

We cannot do more than refer generally to the information as to a number of other libraries in Paris and the departments, including the municipal libraries of the capital, and an interesting comparison of municipal expenditure in libraries in Paris, as compared with large towns in England and the United States. Amongst the longer articles, there are some extracts from the report for 1883 of the *Commission des Archives diplomatiques,* and a very long report on the Archives of the *Ministère de la Marine* (pp. 129-145.) We find also reprinted here an important note on the preparation of Catalogues of manuscripts drawn up by a committee of library officials and palæographers, and a list of books approved by the *Commission des bibliothèques populaires et scolaires.*

But perhaps the most important contribution to this Section of the *Bulletin* is a very long article giving an account of the Catalogues of Public Libraries in France. This extends from p. 66 to 91 inclusive, and deals with the libraries of 204 towns in addition to Paris. The French provincial libraries, though for the most part they compare badly enough with our own in the use made of them, are yet much richer in literary interest; many of them possess valuable collections of manuscripts, and they have been endowed with those treasures of monastic collections, which in our own country fell a prey to the spoiler in the sixteenth century.

The concluding portion of the Bulletin is headed "Étranger" and contains a good deal of foreign library notes and news. We may particularly notice a full account of the first eight numbers of the German *Centrablatt für Bibliothekswesen,* notices of some recent British Museum publications, and an account of the Spanish *Annario del cuerpo facultativo de archiveros, bibliotecarios y anticuarios.* A short note upon the *Library Chronicle* seems to be given at second hand.

SOME NEW BOOKS.

Amongst the new books that have been sent to us for notice, Mr. A. H. Bullen's edition of "Marlowe"[1] specially commends itself to a writer in these pages. Mr. Bullen has devoted himself to zealous and successful researches into some of those treasures of

[1] The Works of Christopher Marlowe. Edited by A. H. Bullen. In three volumes. London: Nimmo, 1885. Post 8vo.

which Mr. George Bullen is the official guardian; and has undertaken to edit a series of the "Elizabethan Dramatists," of which these three handsome volumes are the first instalment. Mr. Bullen's work as an editor has been excellently done, and this edition of his author is one that should be found on the shelves of every library.

Another work bearing Mr. Bullen's name as editor, is a really delightful collection of "Carols and Poems,"[1] printed with a well-written and scholarly preface, handsomely illustrated, and beautifully got up.

Mr. Nimmo has brought out a very beautiful edition of Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Wonder Book for Boys and Girls,"[2] with thirty-six illustrations by the American artist, Frederic S. Church. It is a charming present for boys and girls, who will be delighted by these stories, while children of a larger growth will be not less charmed by these renderings of the familiar classical myths from the pen of one who was himself "of imagination all compact."

One of the best American writers, Mr. George W. Cable, has written a very pleasant account of "The Creoles of Louisiana,"[3] and of the "one city in the United States which is without pretension or intention, picturesque and antique." The book is abundantly illustrated, and is issued in a style of solid splendour which it is very pleasant to find after the flimsy tawdriness which is so common.

The literature of the Johnson Centenary has been disappointing. With the exception of Mr. Napier's "Boswell," there has been nothing worthy of the occasion. A judicious selection from the works which are so little read, would have been a very useful and desirable addition to our libraries. Instead of that there have been a few compilations from "Boswell's Life," a book which everyone has, or ought to have, upon his book-shelves. Nor have these compilations been well done. For example, the little book entitled "Dr. Johnson: His Life, Works and Table Talk,"[4] in 156 small fcap. 12mo pp., does scant justice to the subject, and is not free from traces of careless and hasty editing. Nor can we say that we are much taken with Mr. Elliot Stock's facsimile reproduction of the first edition of "Rasselas," to which Dr. James Macaulay has prefixed an introduction and a bibliographical list of editions of Rasselas.[5] It may faithfully reproduce the original form of the book, except, indeed, that the colour of the paper seems to us to be very different; but was the work worth doing?

Our list is concluded with a more substantial contribution to the library. The "Dictionary of English History,"[6] a volume of nearly 1,100 closely printed pages, published by Messrs. Cassell, and edited by Messrs. Low and Pulling, is an excellent idea, which, so far as we can judge, is excellently carried out. A comprehensive work of this kind can, of course, only be judged by constant use. But the names of the contributors ought to be a guarantee for the care and ability with which the work has been performed. There can at least be no doubt that it is a book which no librarian can afford to be without.

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1 "Carols and Poems, From the Fifteenth Century to the Present Time." Edited by A. H. Bullen. With Seven Illustrations newly designed by Henry G. Wells. London: Nimmo, 1884.

2 "A Wonder Book for Boys and Girls." By Nathaniel Hawthorne. With Thirty-six New and Original Illustrations by Frederic S. Church. London: Nimmo, 1885. Roy. 8vo.

3 "The Creoles of Louisiana." By George W. Cable. Illustrated. London: Nimmo, 1885. 8vo.

4 "Doctor Johnson: His Life, Works, and Table Talk." Centenary Edition. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1884. Fcap. 12mo.

5 "Rasselas, Prince of Abyssinia." By Samuel Johnson, LL.D. Being a Facsimile Reproduction of the First Edition published in 1759. In two volumes. With an Introduction by Dr. James Macaulay. London: Stock, 1884. 12mo.

6 "The Dictionary of English History." Edited by Sidney J. Low, B.A., and F. S. Pulling, M.A. London: Cassell & Co., Ld., 1884. Sm. 4to.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE (*which represents at least 250 libraries*) *as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

THE March Monthly Meeting will be held at the London Institution on March 6th, at 8 p.m., when Mr. H. R. Tedder will read a paper on "The Barkers and the Early History of the Royal Patent for Printing the Bible."

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

The February Monthly Meeting was held at the London Institution on February 6th, Mr. H. R. Tedder in the chair.

It was announced that the following gentlemen had become Members of the Association:—Mr. LOCKWOOD HUNTLEY, Assistant-Librarian, Free Public Library, Aberdeen; Mr. F. W. PIXLEY, Hon. Librarian and Treasurer, Clergy Club; Mr. ARTHUR TAIT, Assistant-Librarian, Free Public Library, South Shields; Mr. H. L. WOOD, Librarian, Free Public Libraries, Bradford.

The following gentlemen were then proposed and seconded for election at the next monthly meeting:—Mr. J. BROWNBILL, Gainsborough; Mr. Fred. SMITH, Halifax; Mr. A. A. NEWMAN, London; Mr. W. SWAN SONNENSCHEIN, London; Prof. THORPE, Leeds; Mr. Edward WALFORD, London; and Mr. John WHELDON, London.

Attention was called to the unsuitable binding in which the last volume of the Calendars of State Papers has just been issued, and the following resolution was passed on the subject, and directed to be forwarded to the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

"The Library Association beg to represent to the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office the undesirability of issuing the volumes of Calendars of State Papers in the unsuitable binding which has been adopted in the case of the last volume just issued; and to point out that the new binding is not only not uniform with the old, but is inferior to it in character and appearance, and that the half binding in cloth and paper is a very undesirable economy from the purchaser's point of view."

The chairman then called upon the Hon. Secretary to read his Paper on "London Libraries in 1710." After a short discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper.

The Meeting then adjourned.

The Council have elected his Worship the Mayor of Plymouth (EDWARD JAMES, Esq. J.P.) President of the Association for the present year.

The Council have fixed the 1st of May as the date, on or before which the names of intending candidates for the proposed Examination of Library Assistants must be sent to the Hon. Secretary. The fee payable for the Examination will be: for the First Class Certificate 5s., for the Second Class Certificate 10s.

The Hon. Secretary regrets to find that in the London and Cambridge volume Mr. Pink has been erroneously described as the seconder of Mr. Nicholson's motion at the Cambridge Meeting in favour of Sunday Opening. The Secretary has been misled by the Cambridge reporter on a point, on which he might certainly have been expected not to err.

As the Cataloguing Rules of the Association are out of print, they have been reprinted in this number, and the opportunity has been taken of incorporating the results of the revision made of them at the Liverpool Meeting.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

LEEDS.—The Free Public Library Committee have announced that the recent exhibition was attended by 155,000 persons, and has realized a profit. It is now proposed to hold an exhibition of the work of Leeds and Yorkshire Artists in the autumn. The question of the Sunday Opening of the Public Libraries is again being agitated in Leeds.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM. — At a general meeting of the trustees on the 17th of January, it was decided to ask the Treasury to sanction the opening of the Natural History Museum, at South Kensington, on Sunday afternoons.

LONDON: INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EXHIBITION LIBRARY.—The Executive Council having decided to present the valuable collection of works on Health in this Library to the Parkes Museum of Hygiene, and the Education portion to the City and Guilds Technical Institute, Mr. Carl A. Thimm, the Librarian, has now completed the transfer. It is to be regretted that the Executive Council of the Inventions Exhibition have at present not seen their way to permit Mr. Thimm to form a collection of works on inventions and Music, which would be of very great service to students and the public. The Reading Room, which last year contained over 250 journals relating, more or less, to Health and Education, could no doubt be largely increased. We trust it is not too late for steps to be taken for the formation of a Library, which, last year, proved such an undoubted success.

MANCHESTER: OWENS COLLEGE.—The formal presentation of the Library of the late Dr. R. Angus Smith to the Governors of the Owens College, took place on January 15th. Mr. Alderman Hopkinson made the presentation on behalf of the donors, some of the personal friends of Dr. Smith, who had raised a fund to purchase the Library, that it might be preserved as a permanent memorial of him. Dr. Smith's library contained about 3,500 volumes, exclusive of a number of blue-books upon technical subjects. Its selection and variety were characteristic of the Doctor's work and tastes. The principal portion was chemical, with 850 volumes; but probably the division which contained the rarest and most valuable books, was the Keltic, with 490 volumes. Competent judges consider it to be the most important collection now in existence of works relating to the Keltic language and the history of Scotland. There was a large collection of classical and theological works, and many rare books on alchemy; also some curious and interesting books in German upon mining, together with a small collection of Arabic books, and others on sanitary engineering. Principal Greenwood stated that, while the College Library had received by donation no fewer than 15,000 volumes, this was, with the exception of the library bequeathed by the late Bishop Lee, the largest single collection presented to it, as it was certainly one of the most valuable. The Librarian reports that the Library now contains 38,886 volumes, and that the Library of the Medical Society of Manchester, which is housed in contiguous rooms, and to which the students of the college have access, contains some 28,000 volumes.

NEWARK-UPON-TRENT: STOCK LIBRARY.—The annual general meeting of the proprietors and shareholders was held in the Library Rooms on Tuesday, February 3rd, the Ven. Archdeacon Maltby, President, in the chair. The treasurer's accounts showed a balance in hand of £80 18*s.* 1½*d.*, while the hon. secretary's report showed the Library to be in a very flourishing condition. The first copies of the new catalogue, which has recently been compiled, were laid upon the table, and the meeting having expressed approval of the manner in which the work had been accomplished, presented to the Sub-Librarian (Mr. H. Midworth), a very substantial acknowledgment for the care he had exercised in its compilation.

NOTTINGHAM.—On January 30th, a new branch Free Public Library and Reading Room for New Basford, were opened by Mr. Alderman Lindley, Chairman of the Free Public Library Committee, at the Baptist School. The Library was the property of the Basford Library Company,

and has been acquired by the Committee, who have added to it so that it now numbers nearly 4,000 volumes.

We regret to hear of the death of Mr. E. C. Rye, Librarian of the Royal Geographical Society, which took place on February 7th, at the age of 52.

The agitation for a more liberal distribution of publications issued at the national expense, appears to be bearing fruit. The Leeds Public Library has recently received 326 volumes of chronicles, calendars, etc.; and the Bolton Public Library has received 156 volumes. No doubt other Libraries have shared in the distribution. Though something has been done, there is still much left to be desired, and the efforts of the Association and of individuals should not be relaxed.

We have received from Messrs. Slade Brothers a specimen of a new binding-case for periodicals, called the "Patent Self Binder." It is ingeniously contrived to expand in such a way that its thickness can be adjusted according to the number of periodicals contained in it. This makes it much more compact than the ordinary case. At the same time any single number can be readily taken out or re-inserted.

FOREIGN.

Chicago.—Quite a sensation has been excited at Chicago by the discovery of dynamite and some machinery for its explosion, among the stolen effects of J. C. Talbert, recently an employé in the Chicago Public Library. It was found that Talbert had stolen and secreted at his house over *three thousand* books from the Library, the thefts extending over a period of fifteen months. Mr. Poole and the detectives, we learn from the American papers, express the opinion that Talbert, whose real name is Otto Funk, is what is called a "crank," in America.

Lahore.—We have received the prospectus of the "Punjab Public Library," which has been established at the desire and with the assistance of the Punjab Government, in order to provide a Public Library for the use of all classes in the province. A large contribution of books and money has been promised by the Government, and the Committee appeal to the public for contributions of books, both European and Oriental. Assistance is especially desired towards securing a complete collection of books relating to India and the East. The Reading Room is open free, and books will be lent out to subscribers of Rs. 5, who also pay a deposit of Rs. 10.

Toronto: Public Library. — The Toronto Library was opened for the use of the public on the 6th March, 1884, and had 229 working days. Total circulation of the central, with the two branches, was 179,506, or an average of 783 daily. There are employed 18 hands, and the salaries paid are about $8,500. The number of persons attending the Reading Rooms since the opening, is over 400,000. The Reference Library is not ready for public use. A catalogue is now preparing which is expected to be ready in three months. A catalogue of 11,000 printed volumes in the Circulating Department has been printed. There are 3,750 volumes in each of the two branches. The total number of volumes in the Library is over 33,000, including 1,900 volumes in the Hallam Collection.

The *Library Journal* for January reprints from the *Pall Mall Gazette* the account of an interview with Dr. Garnett. The number also contains a "Classification of the Recreative and Athletic Arts," by C. A. Cutter.

The February number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* contains a second article, by A. Fuhrer, "Ueber indisches Bibliothekswesen," (on Indian Libraries), which should be even more interesting to English than to German readers. The present article contains a list of the more important manuscripts of Pundit Hrishikesha of Lahore. A. Winterrlin supplies a very precise account of the removal of the Public Library at Stuttgart into its new building. The work of carrying the books was done by a party of 30 soldiers with a sergeant.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Bradford Public Free Libraries. Catalogue of the Central Lending Library. Third Edition. Price Sixpence. Bradford, 1884. Large 8vo, pp. [iv], 156, paper wrapper.

A clearly printed double column Catalogue of 13,619 volumes. It is on the index plan, with the author-entries in a bold black type, which easily distinguishes them from the subject and title-entries in small capitals. The contents of collectaneous works are set out in many cases. The wrapper is only of thin paper, and not calculated to last.

Catalogue of the Dumbarton Free Public Library Circulating and Reference Departments. Dumbarton, 1885. Small 8vo, pp. xii, 89. Stiff wrapper with cloth back [price Threepence].

The Acts were adopted at Dumbarton 1881, and the book department opened on 1st October last. The present Catalogue includes 2,400 vols., and is on the Dictionary plan, Mr. Madeley's size-notation being used. There are over 10 pp. of advertisements.

Richmond Free Public Library. Catalogue of the whole of the Books in the Library. Second Edition. Compiled by Alfred Cotgreave. Oldbury, 1884. Small 8vo, pp. viii, 311, boards, cloth back.

This Catalogue comprises 11,190 vols. on the index plan, with a selection of contents. Books in the reference department are marked R. L. There are a good many advertisements.

Borough of Bradford. Fourteenth Annual Report of the Public Free Libraries and Art Museum Committee, for the year ended August 12th, 1884. Bradford. 8vo, pp. 16, and wrapper.

The visits for the year numbered :—To the Central News and Reading Room, 448,850; the Reference and Lending Library, 189,475 ; the Art Museum, 343,919 ; the seven branch Lending Libraries, 157,898 ; the six branch Reading Rooms, 144,985 ; total 1,285,127, being an increase on the previous year of 223,434. The number of vols. issued for home reading was 288,538. The Libraries now contain 42,602 vols., of which 6,615 were added during the year. The report contains no financial information. Some elaborate tables are appended, including statistics for thirteen years.

Cardiff Free Library, Museum, and Science and Art Schools. Twenty-second Annual Report, 1883-4. Cardiff, 1884. 8vo, pp. 24.

The Libraries were open 270 days, 40 days less than the previous year. The issues were from the Lending department 64,222, a decrease of 8,754 on the previous year, chiefly in fiction, and from in the Reference department 6,291, a decrease of 321. The News and Reading Rooms are used very extensively. The Schools continue to make satisfactory progress. The Corporation grant for the year was £1,437 1s. 11d., the total income, including students' fees and Government grants, £2,486 6s. 2d.; the expenditure general, £318 12s. 8d.; on the Library, £681 0s. 1½d. ; on the Schools, £753 3s. 6d. ; and on the Museum, £203 1s. 9d.

Borough of Salford. Thirty-sixth Annual Report of the Museum, Libraries and Parks' Committee, 1883-84. Salford. Large 8vo, pp. 28.

The issues of books in the four reading rooms was 472,123 (including those placed at the disposal of the readers in the rooms). The number of visits to the news-rooms was over half a million. The issues from the four lending libraries was 217,544, a decrease of 12,365, due to the fact that they were open 107 days less than the previous years. The Committee complain that the penny rate is inadequate. The expenditure on books, papers and binding was only £679 8s. 7d.

We have received a "Rough List of Lancashire County and Local Histories in the Manchester Free Reference Library," dated January, 1885 (8vo, pp. 20). The books are classified under the names of places and districts.

Notes and Queries.

Note.

Anonymous Books—The *Pall Mall Gazette* (Jan. 31, 1885) in a review of Phillimore and Dexter's "Dickens Memento," mentions that "Change for American Notes by an American Lady," was written by a Yorkshire journalist, by name Mr. H. Wood, who afterwards became the Editor of *Douglas Jerrold's Weekly Newspaper.* C. W. S.

Queries.

Author Wanted.—Can any one kindly tell me the author of the under-mentioned work:—

"Bibliographie anecdotique et raisonnée de tous les ouvrages d'Andréa de Nerciat par M. de C . . ., bibliophile Anglais. Edition ornée du portrait inédit de Nerciat gravé d'après l'original appartenant à M. B. . . de Paris. Sm. 8vo. Londres, 1876 (26 copies printed)? H. T. Folkard.

Gresham College.—I believe the Norfolk Library at Gresham College was sold some years ago. Can anyone give me the date and the circumstances of the sale or dispersal of the collection? T.

Correspondence.

Shelf Arrangement of Periodicals.

In Dr. Garnett's interesting communication respecting Mr. Baber's "Memorandum on the Removal of the British Museum Library," he speaks of the "admirable method of marking periodicals," invented by Mr. Thomas Watts and employed at the Museum. I think many readers of the *Chronicle* would like to see particulars of this method. If Dr. Garnett would kindly supply them, I am sure the favour would be appreciated.

C. W. S.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

London and Cambridge Volume.

A cloth case for binding this volume can be supplied for 1s. 9d., or the volume can be put in the case for 2s. 6d. Applications to be made to the Chiswick Press, 21, Took's Court, Chancery Lane, E.C.

Some copies of the volume have been inadvertently issued with a defective table of contents, which was reprinted in consequence of the accidental omission of two Papers, (Henry Stevens and E. C. Thomas, pp. 17 and 23). Any member desiring to be furnished with the necessary cancel, may have it sent, on application to the Chiswick Press.

The Editor requests that Librarians will kindly forward to him a copy of their Annual Reports, without waiting to be specially applied to for it.

We have received a letter from Mr. Wm. Jones, Librarian of the Public Library, Cheltenham, in reference to the notice of his Catalogue in our last number. Mr. Jones explains that the works mentioned as not being in the library, are to be found in the Reference Department, and as the funds of the Library are very small the committee decided not to purchase second copies for the Lending Department. Since the catalogue was issued however, the rate has been raised from one half-penny to a penny, and the stock in the Lending department has been doubled.

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The Library Chronicle.

THE LIBRARIES OF LONDON IN 1710.[1]

By Ernest C. Thomas.

PROFESSOR J. E. B. MAYOR called attention at our Cambridge Meeting to the account of the Libraries of Cambridge in 1710, left on record by Zacharias Conrad von Uffenbach in the Diary of his Travels through Germany, Holland and England. That Diary contains interesting notices also of the Libraries of London and Oxford, and I propose to put together in the present paper his account of the Libraries of London. Uffenbach was accompanied on his travels by his brother, who was a student of art and of physical science. A number of illustrations from drawings by this brother are to be found in the three volumes of the diary of Zacharias, which were published some time after his death.

Our travellers left Frankfurt on the 8th November, 1709, and the whole of the first volume and two-thirds of the second are devoted to an account of what they saw on their journey through Germany and Holland. They crossed from Helvoet-Sluys to Harwich, where they arrived on the 5th of June, 1710, and leaving Harwich on the morning of the 6th, reached London on the evening of the next day. Uffenbach's account of his experiences in England is full of observations on men and manners and on many things besides books and libraries. But for the purposes of the present paper we must confine ourselves chiefly to the latter.

The first few days the brothers spent in viewing the city, and in excursions to Chelsea and Greenwich. Uffenbach notes how convenient it is, "as London is built for the most part along the Thames, that one can go almost everywhere by water," though he observes "the wind is generally so strong that the perriwigs are almost immediately disordered." They visited the theatres and the opera, which they found so excellent that nothing in Italy could be better. They went to the booksellers' shops, and, of course, to Paternoster Row, where a German bookseller called Badmann kept a shop at the "Corner House." He was the chief bookseller, Uffenbach says, not only in London but in all England. "In other shops one finds hardly any Latin books, and everything one sees is bound, though some have elsewhere warehouses of unbound books. But this Badmann deals only in old bound books, of which he has two shops crammed full, and in such quantities that they lie in heaps about the floor. I found

[1] Read at the February Monthly Meeting of the Library Association.

many charming (herzliche) books amongst them, but they are so terribly dear that I only bought a few English historicos, and only one Latin book. . . . It may be observed that it would be very foolish to buy Latin books in England, as they may be got much cheaper in Holland. But English books, I mean books written in English, must be bought here because they are not exported, and when I began to learn English, the only book I could find in Frankfurt was a Bible."

On June 14th, Saturday morning, they went to see St. Paul's, and first mounted the tower in order to enjoy the view before the air was filled with smoke. He notes that at the top they found "innumerable names scribbled with chalk or scraped in the stone, and accordingly we made our guide do it for us." Then they proceeded to see the Library. "The Repositoria or shelves are all of oak, very massive, and with elaborate carving. The room is of moderate size but very high, so that it will hold a great many books. Then there are above rows of repositoria, one above another, to which access is by a gallery. The gallery is reached by an ingenious ornamental staircase which has neither pillar nor post. It has one hundred and ten steps, so that the height of the room may be guessed. As everything has only lately been established and built, there are not a thousand volumes to be seen, though most of them are folios, including some fine books, amongst which is an incomparable copy of Castelli's Lexicon. The person in charge of the library is an Englishman, which is as much as to say a man who troubles himself very little about it. If I had such a room, though a little larger, and such repositoria for my books, I would willingly leave them their stock of books. Though the place was somewhat large for a library." He adds a very interesting account of the church itself, which was still enclosed by the builder's boardings, and on which the workmen were busily engaged.

On the 18th of June they visited the Collegium Medicum or College of Physicians, where the library seemed to consist of not more than 2,000 volumes, having suffered greatly in the Fire of 1666.

In the afternoon they went to see the 'cockfighting.' "This is a particular delight of the English, however barbarous it appears to strangers. There is a house specially built for it near 'Gras Inn.' The house is round like a tower, and inside just like a *theatrum anatomicum*, with benches rising above each other all round, on which the spectators sit." Then he proceeds to describe the fighting, over which he becomes naïvely enthusiastic, "and I must admit," he concludes more soberly, "that when you bet yourself there is some pleasure in it, though I only bet a shilling each time with my brother." After that they went into "the beautiful promenade close to 'Gras Inn,' which is a 'collegium' of young advocates, several of which will have to be mentioned further on. The promenade is beautiful, and there are a great many people in it of both sexes."

On the 20th they visited "Little Britain, where very many *antiquarii* or booksellers live, who deal only in old books. I bought thirty guineas' worth, and foundt hem much cheaper than at Badmann's or other booksellers in the town."

"On the 23rd they attended a sale of the "lately Lords Viscount Fanshaw's Library," when Uffenbach bought various English historical books for ten guineas. The sale appears to have lasted several days. Then they went to see the Temple (this he by a little confusion calls 'Temple Bar'), which consists of many large and handsome buildings, in which the advocates live together. . . . First we saw the Middle Temple, and went into the hall where they dine. It is on the ground floor and very large. But

the eating is just as disgusting as in the colleges at Oxford. The table was laid, and wooden platters were on the table, and green earthenware dishes to throw the bones into. There were no napkins, and the cloth was as if a sow had had her litter there. We should have been very sorry to dine with them, and so went to see the library. This is in a small room, and has two thousand volumes, which are all chained. Above and below are blue-painted tablets, on which the names of the governors were to be inscribed. There were none there, however, but only the following words :

Eruditionis Maecenates Benefactores | huic Bibliothecae honorabilis societatis | Medii Templi Fundator | Robertus Ashley, Ar. His portrait, life-size, hung near. Amongst the books were some pretty good ones, and in all faculties.

"Afterwards we went into the Inner Temple, where the hall was smaller but prettier, brighter and pleasanter than the other. Upstairs above the hall was the library, which was also prettier than the other. The books were all in neat cases of oak, chiefly law books." Amongst them they found the last volume, the ninth, of Rymer's Fœdera, and turning it over observed that it contained much which would throw light on German history, and Uffenbach suggests that if the purely English matters of no general interest were left out "one might make some useful 'Tomos' out of the large and costly work."

On occasion of a visit to a goldsmith in Holborn, who had announced in the papers that he had a collection of ancient and modern coins for sale, Uffenbach observes that "it is an excellent thing in England that they fill the spare room in the newspapers, not with lies (as is done in Germany), but with all kinds of advertisements. No newspaper is printed without announcements of sales, not only of ordinary things, but also of books, coins, instruments, furniture, etc. Notices are also found of anything that is stolen or lost, and also when apprentices or servants run away from their masters, which happens, however, too frequently, so that to many people it is painful to read the advertisements."

On the 26th of June they went to see the Records. "These records are kept close by the entrance to the Tower on the left hand towards the Thames, in a building called Wakefield Tower. The so-called records, or *acta publica*, are in a moderate-sized room, where there are large and handsome oak cases fixed against the wall, as also in the middle of the room. The old documents are placed in the shelves; but the oldest were only of the 13th century, as he who took us round informed us, who for an Englishman was a polite and unassuming person of thirty odd years. The very oldest that we saw was one of King John, and we saw, besides: *Rotulus Parliamenti de Ao. XIII. Eduardi III. Regis.* There were a great many of these *rotulorum Parliamentorum* here. We were also shown *Confœderationem inter Eduardum IV. Regem Angliæ & Hanse-villas in Germania, ao.* 14. *Ed.* 4. . . . and very many other things, most of which are to be found in the great work of Mr. Rymer, and several of which we compared with this charming work, and found them to agree with the originals. We also saw several letters of very ancient paper, from which we may see how bad the first paper was. It was almost as thick as the back of a knife, and quite fibrous and felt-like. As one of them, which was particularly old, was torn, I begged for a little piece, which I received, and it was dearer to me than a guinea. The writing is scarcely legible, and it looks, when it is torn, quite woolly."

Then the famous Mr. George Holmes, Deputy of the Keeper of the Records, who had showed us what I have already mentioned, took us into the so-called White Tower. This is the building in the middle, in which below is the powder magazine, above is a

vaulted room which is called Julius Cæsar's Chapel. In this chapel are all documents from the year 1602 in very great numbers. There were three men here employed in numbering and arranging them. In the tower previously mentioned, which I forgot to mention before, are four men in a little room, who copied the old records for Mr. Rymer. They were well practised in reading them at sight. Mr. Rymer has them afterwards read aloud, and examines the documents himself, in order to have them quite accurate in his splendid work.

"As we took our leave and thanked Mr. Holmes and I offered him two crowns, he refused to take anything at all and was very polite, so that you see well-mannered people, such as Bibliothecarii and the like, are not easily persuaded to take a present from strangers."

They went to see Westminster Abbey, and then hastened to see "the Westminster Library, or as it is called in Views of London, vol. V, p. 715 and 730, 'the library of the Queen's School and College.' It is in a moderate sized room, very ugly and smoky. Here the books, even the latest as Grævii Thesaurus, are fastened by chains, which are made fast to iron staples. The Bibliothecarius not only looked like a chimney-sweep, but was also deaf. He talked Latin however, to my surprise, pretty well and showed us a number of MSS. There were not many printed books and nothing particular among them."

On the 28th of June they visited Sion College. "The library of this *Collegii* is up-stairs in a large narrow room, where the books stand on both sides in certain classes, the classification being in itself excellent, but so minute (special) that of many classes there were hardly twenty books, and even in the highest only about sixty. They are also on chains and can hardly be touched for smoke and dust, so that whenever I examined books in London, I always made my cuffs as black as coal. The man who showed us the library knew nothing about anything, still less about manuscripts, indeed, he said there were none, which I doubt. . . . . I found some good books, particularly in English."

On the 1st of July, a calico printer called Claudius du Puy showed them his museum of curiosities, "among which one of the curiousest of all was the head of Cromwell, as it had fallen with the wooden hook, which had given way; unless, indeed, Herr du Puy has been put off with somebody else's head. Yet Mr. du Puy assured us he could have sold it for sixty guineas." The same day they went in the afternoon to "the Bear Garden in Hockley in the Hole, to see an exhibition of boxing and fighting"—a genuine English delight, as Uffenbach calls it, upon which he is content to bestow a description four pages long—though it must have given him a curious idea of English brutality.

On the 5th of July they went to Gresham College "where also, as is well known, the Royal Society has its seat. People still have a great idea of this Society in Germany, and not only of the Society itself, but also of the treasures of its *Museo*, especially when one looks at the transactions of the Society, and the splendid description by Grew of its Museum; and therefore strangers are very much surprised to hear, in how bad a state everything now is." After seeing the Museum they asked to see the Library, which, as is well known, belonged to the Duke of Norfolk. "There are some good *manuscripts*, but we could hardly look at them—I will not say properly, but as we should have liked—the *Herr Operator* was so quick and English, evidently thinking that he had already been detained quite long enough in the Museum."

On the 11th July they visited Apothecaries' Hall, and then went on to the Heralds'

Office or College. Uffenbach was greatly pleased with the comparatively free access allowed to public documents in England as compared with his own country. "The English are to be praised that they are much more orderly with their archives and not so envious as they are in Germany. If a stranger came and wanted to see the archives of a town, not to speak of a great lord, how he would be turned away in Germany. But still it is to be wished that even the English had more patience and politeness." On the 12th, Saturday, they saw the Library at St. Martin's in Castle Street. "This is the handsomest and most numerous of all the libraries we have seen in London. But we dare hardly stay a minute there, because the teacher of the School had no time, and also as he told us, does not show it to any one but those who brought express permission from the Archbishop, with which we were not provided, as we knew nothing of it. They were, so far as I could see by a rapid glance, chiefly modern historical books."

On the 16th July they went to see "the excellent *Bibliothecam Msct. Cottonianam*. It is in a building adjoining Westminster Hall, and is called Cotton's house." "The chamber in which the library is placed is not very large, but very pleasant, as it has a view over a little garden to the Thames. The Manuscripts are in thirteen cases of oak. The Bibliothecarius, who is still a young man, was very polite and allowed us to look about for two hours; we took the printed Catalogue of the library and had shown to us a great many *Codices* one after another; of which, however, as they may be found in the printed Catalogue I need not say much." He notes "a Codex memb. in Fol. (namely Liber Geneseos ex versione LXX Interpr.) very old; and Fragmenta Antiqua Scripturæ Lat. in Charta Ægyptiaca,—this was wholly written in red letters, which the Bibliothecarius assured us were written with the blood of a fish: *vid.* in Catal. edit. Titus C. XV." "As it was known to us that the Royal Library, commonly called the Queen's Library, which used to stand in St. James's, had been brought here until a special room was built for it, we asked after it and begged to see it. The Bibliothecarius, however, of the former library asked to be excused, and was not willing to show it to us, although he had the key, because Dr. Bentley was the Bibliothecarius, who lives in Cambridge. Yet on my persisting he led us first into a small room, in which the handsomest volumes were placed. The most noticeable thing we saw among them was the *Acta Synodi Dordracenæ* as they were sent over here from Holland, bound in red velvet with silver arms. Of *Codices* we saw nothing, because Dr. Bentley was absent. I was much grieved that we could not see the celebrated *Codicem Alexandrinum*, but we were assured that Dr. Grabe had taken it with him to Oxford, so that we hoped to see it there."

At Merchant Taylors', which they visited a day or two later, they found hardly two hundred books, and were told that many had disappeared.

On the 22nd of July they went to Westminster to see the Library of the Bishop of Norwich (Dr. Moore), but found that he had been translated to Ely, and that his house was shut up. They went on, however, to the Exchequer Office, where they were much interested in the heaps of tallies lying on the table. In a room near were kept the records, some of which were shown to the visitors, amongst them Doomsday Book.

Towards the end of July they went to Cambridge, and from there to Oxford, and only returned to London early in October.

On the 14th they went to see "the celebrated editor of the excellent *Thesauri Ling. Septentr.*, George Hickes, in Ormond Street. He is a good *ehrlicher* old man of about

sixty years, but speaks very little. We talked of some Anglo-Saxon *Codicibus* and other such books. He was very much pleased when I gave him news of Herr Dietrich von Staden and his intended edition of *Ottfridi*."

On the 18th they went to Lambeth across the Thames, in order to see the Library of the Archbishop of Canterbury. "It stands in a narrow gallery, which runs in a square round a quadrangular court; but it is not very large, nor is the number of books so very considerable, although there were many valuable principally modern works, which have been chiefly collected by the present Archbishop Tenison. We asked to see the manuscripts, but the *Bibliothecarius* excused himself from showing them without explaining the reason. As it was soon dinner-time, the *Bibliothecarius* asked if we would go with him into the chapel to prayers, which the archbishop hears every day before dinner, and we did go. When prayers were over, we went with the other visitors into a room, through which the archbishop and his people were conducted by a marshal into the dining-hall, into which we followed and joined them at table. There were on this occasion some sixteen persons at dinner, most of them English clergymen. He has a public table of this kind several times a week, and the clergymen of London and from the country make good use of the privilege. We would rather that there had not been so many people of this kind present on this occasion, as we could in consequence have little conversation with him. The archbishop is an old but fine man, and we could not help wondering to see him at his age sit at table uncovered. He did not talk very much, and although the dinner was pretty good, it did not last more than an hour and a half. No healths were drunk but the archbishop's, except what each person did for himself. When dinner was over we made our compliments to the archbishop, and after he had asked us what our country was and who we were, and had asked after some scholars in Germany, he let us go."

This appears to have been the last library they visited, although they continued to visit the booksellers' shops and to attend book auctions. In particular they went to "the so-called Latin Coffee-house near St. Paul's Church. This is very convenient. One goes there in the evening, drinks a cup of tea or coffee, smokes a pipe of tobacco, and when a good book turns up takes part in the bidding. I bought various excellent books, much cheaper than they can be had in the shops." They went also to see the scholar, Dr. Joh. Ernest Grabe, who showed them the famous Codicem Alexandrinum. "He told us with what great trouble he had managed to obtain access for foreigners to the manuscripts of the Bodleian Library. But after some Codices had been carried off in some mysterious way by the *Studioso May* they were again more particular." Uffenbach tells us of Dr. Karger, of Breslau, a German friend of theirs staying in England for the purpose of studying the country, in particular as regards the state of learning, "and will write a description of it in very lively colours, which will open the eyes of foreigners, so that they will no longer imagine that England is the seat of the Muses and of all wisdom, but see that ignorance and pedantry are tolerably rampant here."

He gave them his views on the collectors of England, with which I must conclude the present paper. "As we happened to speak of books and of the libraries here, Dr. Karger assured us that there were many amateurs here, but that they collected with little judgment, and told us that he had seen with his own eyes how a noble lord took a piece of string from his pocket and measured off a row of books, without looking at their contents or titles, and proceeded to buy them by the yard or ell." Is this

the original version of the familiar story one has heard in so many shapes ; or is it that the story is always new and always true?

Here for the present we must take leave of Uffenbach and his brother, who left England a few days after their visit to Lambeth.

RICHARD DE BURY AND THOMAS A KEMPIS.

In the Preface to his translation of the "Philobiblon," Mr. Inglis observes that "Thomas a Kempis is the only early writer I know of, who ever made use of the Philobiblon, three or four chapters of his Doctrinale Juvenum being taken from it without acknowledgment."

The present writer has been led by these remarks of Mr. Inglis to look into the *Doctrinale Juvenum*, and a short account of it with a view of determining the extent of its obligations to De Bury may not be uninteresting to the readers of both authors.

The *Doctrinale seu Manuale Juvenum* is not one of the best known works of the author of the *De Imitatione Christi*. It is a short treatise of twelve chapters, the whole occupying less than eight pages of the octavo editions of the works. The chapters treating of books are: *I. De commendatione sacræ scripturæ. III. De thesauro eloquiorum divinorum. IV. De bonis scriptoribus librorum. V. De firma custodia librorum. VI. De indocto clerico, sine sacris libris.* The remaining chapters are devoted to the praise of the monastic life, and to enforcing the duties of self-abnegation and humility. The writer exhorts those whom he addresses to be careful of their hearts and lips ; and adds : "ad haec juvat optime in solitudine manere, orare, studere, scribere, operari."

The title of chapter I reminds us of the title of De Bury's first chapter (as given in the first printed edition) *De Commendatione sapientiæ et librorum.* But there is nothing in the chapter to show that a Kempis had De Bury's chapter in his mind. The title of Chapter III may recall the argument of De Bury's first chapter, the title of which is in the best MSS: *Quod thesaurus Sapientiæ potissime sit in libris.* Here again, however, the similarity ceases, and though the following passage in a Kempis may have been remotely suggested by the well-known passage beginning "Hi sunt magistri," &c. of De Bury, there is no very close parallelism, much less any room for a suggestion of plagiarism :—"Libri doctorum thesauri sunt clericorum. Docent enim ignaros, arguunt otiosos, excitant torpentes, stimulant dormientes, corrigunt errantes, erigunt corruentes, terrent ridentes, consolantur lugentes, laudant humiles, vituperant superbientes, confortant debiles, reprimunt præsumentes, concordant rixantes, mitigant turbatos, lætificant tristes, subsannant vane gloriantes, iustificant pios, damnant perversos, sanant languentes, salvant pœnitentes, honorant veraces, confundunt fictos et mendaces, defendunt iustos et misericordes, vindicant omnes iniqua agentes."

The fourth chapter of the *Doctrinale* points out that "cor hominum est instabile et memoria multum vaga et labilis" and that books serve to preserve many things that would otherwise be forgotten. De Bury, it is true, argues to the same effect in his first chapter ; but the reflection is obvious enough, and may well have occurred quite independently to each writer.

In the fifth chapter the only thing that reminds us particularly of De Bury is the use of the text from Deuteronomy "Ponite librum istum in latere arcae fœderis," etc.

which is also found in the Philobiblon. The seventh chapter again recalls the *Querimonia librorum contra clericos* which forms De Bury's fourth chapter. But the phraseology is very different, and there is nothing in the Philobiblon to have suggested the following passage, regarded as a whole: "Clericus sine sacris libris quasi miles sine armis, equus sine frenis, navis sine remis, scriptor sine pennis, avis sine alis, ascensor sine scalis, sutor sine subulis, rector sine regulis, faber sine malleis, sartor sine acu et filis, rasor sine cultris, sagittator sine iaculis, viator sine baculo, caecus sine ductore. Omnes isti parum vel nihil valent, nec proficiunt sine instrumentis et bono instructore. Similiter claustrum et congregatio clericorum sine sacris libris, quasi coquina sive ollis, mensa sine cibis, puteus sine aquis, rivus sine piscibus, saccus sine vestibus, hortus sine floribus, bursa sine pecuniis, vinea sine botris, turris sine custodibus, domus sine utensilibus."

There appears, therefore, upon a careful examination, to be nothing to justify Mr. Inglis's suggestion of plagiarism. One or two possible parallelisms of phrase may well be explained as purely accidental coincidences; and it would be unsafe to conclude from anything that here appears, that the author of the *Doctrinale Juvenum* had ever seen the *Philobiblon*. There is one very marked contrast in the standpoint of the two writers. De Bury pleads for the study of all literature and all science. Thomas a Kempis constantly speaks of "Sacri libri" and apparently has in his mind only the Holy Scriptures and the Fathers of the Church.

NOTE ON THE CATALOGUING OF MANUSCRIPTS.[1]

THE object of a Catalogue of Manuscripts is to collect all the information necessary to ensure the preservation of the volumes, and the identification of articles missing, stolen or mutilated, and to guide the inquiries of students, and direct their attention to all the various texts they are concerned in studying and comparing. In order to fulfil these requirements, without exceeding the limits imposed by the plan of such a publication, it is necessary to abstain from discussions and critical or historical dissertations. It is only in exceptional cases that it is possible to give some information as to the lives of authors, the doctrines they have taught, the list of their works, and the variations of the different MSS.

The maker of a catalogue should never forget that the same treatment cannot be applied without distinction to all the manuscripts in a collection. Four or five lines will be enough for a modern volume, of no interest or containing a well-known work, while it will not be superfluous to devote a page or more to the description of an ancient volume, containing a great number of different articles, or even a collection of letters and original documents.

[1] This "Note," here translated from the original as published in the Bulletin des Bibliothèques (vol. i, p. 94), is intended to serve as a model for the new General Catalogue of Manuscripts undertaken by the French Ministry of Public Instruction. It has been prepared by a commission composed of MM. Charmes, Directeur du Secretariat; Collin, Chef du Bureau des Bibliothèques; Delisle, Administrateur de la Bibliothèque Nationale; Desjardins, Chef du Bureau des Archives; Hauréau, Membre de l'Institut; De Lasteyrie, Professeur à l'École des Chartes; Meyer, Directeur de l'École des Chartes; Molinier, Sous-Bibliothécaire à la Mazarine; Omont, of the Département des MSS. de la Bibliothèque Nationale; Passier, Sous-Chef du Bureau des Bibliothèques; Robert et Servois, Inspecteurs généraux des Bibliothèques et des Archives.

At the head of each entry, besides the number of the entry, should be added a title, indicating clearly the contents of the volume, or at least the principal work contained in it. In default of a title furnished by the manuscript itself, one must be formed in Latin or French, which should be brief but also clear and exact.

What is particularly required in a good account of a manuscript is a precise indication of each of the works, pieces or fragments, contained in the volume. The cataloguer accordingly will set down between inverted commas the initial and final rubrics, with the first and last words of each treatise, but only in all those cases where the manuscript is important, and such precautions are necessary to denote and characterize the article being catalogued. The names of the authors are to be copied as they are found in the manuscripts in the primitive text, disregarding notes of modern date ; and the authors' names must be sought, not only in the rubric, but also in the prologues, the dedications, the glosses, and so on. In the case of anonymous pieces it will be well to refer to bibliographical works, from which information may often be obtained when the manuscripts are silent. Thus the book published by the Academy of Vienna under the title of *Initia librorum patrum latinorum* (Vienna, 1865, 8°.) enables us to identify the authors of a great number of those ecclesiastical treatises, which form more than a quarter of the early manuscripts of our libraries.

Sometimes the best means of determining the identity of a treatise or work is to refer to a well-known edition, or to one of those diplomatic repertories, which ought to be in every library.

All the titles supplied by the compiler of the catalogue, or taken by him from notices or modern annotations, will be carefully distinguished from those which belong to the original and primitive text.

The prefaces, prologues, glosses, tables of contents, etc. that frequently accompany the text of a work, should be indicated.

In describing the liturgical books, so common in our collections of the departments, care will be taken to indicate the particulars that may seem to determine the origin of the manuscript, that is to say the church for which the book was written or to which it belonged. For this purpose the cataloguer will examine attentively the calendar, the canon of the mass (in the case of sacramentaires or of very early missals), the litanies, and the rubrics.

It will not always be possible to mention one by one all the original documents of which certain volumes are composed, but it is desirable to indicate the number exactly, as well as the names of the writers and the extreme dates of the period to which the various pieces in the collection belong.

It is indispensable to indicate on what folio each of the treatises contained in a volume begins. Consultation is thus very greatly facilitated, especially in the case of big manuscripts containing many different works.

The character and age of the copy cannot be too precisely noted, and it will be necessary to look for any notes or peculiarities which, apart from palæographical indications, may throw light on the date of the manuscripts.

In describing the material condition of a manuscript, the substance on which it is written should be noted, the number of pages or folios which it contains, the division of the pages into columns, and the dimensions of the folios.

As the terms folio, quarto and octavo, give only a very vague idea of the form of manuscripts, it is well not to use them, but to denote the height and width of the

volume in millimetres, measuring the body of the manuscript and not the cover, whether of wood or board, the dimensions of which may be modified by a change of binding.

Illuminations and ornaments ought to be indicated, at least in a summary way, with a note of the different folios at which they are found. Nor should the catalogue omit to indicate the kind of binding in which the manuscripts are contained.

The scholar who consults a manuscript often finds it very useful to know its history; and the cataloguer ought as far as possible to determine the origin of each volume, and to enumerate the persons or establishments to which it has belonged in mediæval or modern times. The old number by which the manuscript may have been denoted, should also be added.

When a manuscript has formed the subject of particular treatment, a brief reference to it may be given, with an exact citation of the title of the collection in which the discussion is published.

In order to understand better the application of the preceding remarks, the fifty notices which follow may be studied. They relate to manuscripts of the kind of those that are to be found in the libraries of our départements.[1]

2. (Lat. 11).—Biblia.

XIII cent. Parchm.; ff. 300 in double col.; 430 by 300 millim. Small paintings in the initials. Binding calf (Colbert, 245).

4. (Lat. 10419).—Biblia.

At the end: "Completa Florentiæ, manu mei Franc. Stroczæ, anno Domini MCCLXIII." At the beginning (fol. 1-19), explanation of Hebrew names: "Aaz, apprehendens vel apprehensio . ."

1263. Parchm.; ff. 378 in two col.; 242 by 165 millim. Half bound red morocco. (Supplement. Lat., 580).

22. (Lat. 1082).—Hours of King Charles V.

Fol. 1. Calendar containing the festivals of the King's Chapel and the Anniversaries of the Kings and Queens of France.

XIV cent. Parchm.; ff. 141 of two col.; 220 by 156 millim. Small miniatures enclosed in a tricolour border, on fol. 7 v°, 27 v°, 34, 40 v°, 50, 57, 78, 97 and 107. Half bound red morocco (Baluze.—Old no. 4459, 9.)

26. (Lat. 1619).—S. Dionysii Areopagitæ opera, cum commentariis S. Maximi, Johannis Scoti, Hugonis de S. Victore et Johannis Sarraceni.

Col. 1. "Prefatio Anastasii."—Col. 4. "Versus Johannis Scoti: Hanc libam . . ."—Col. 4. Preface of Johannes Scotus: Valde quidem . . ."— Col. 8. Verses in praise of S. Denis: "Lumine sydereo . . ."— Col. 1073. "Tabula supra libris Dyonisii" (XIV cent.)

XIII cent. Parchm.; ff. 393 in two col.; 240 by 170 millim. Binding calf (Old no. 3956,3.)

28. (Lat. 4703).—"Libellus compositus per Johannem de Blanasco, Burgundionem . . ., super titulo Institutarum de actionibus . . ."

The text concludes: ". . . per eandem peticionem petuntur fructus et res . . ." (chap. *De petitione hereditatis*).

XIV cent. Parchm.; ff. 63 in two col.; 226 by 160 millim. Parchment cover (Colbert, 3862).

29. (Lat. 6048 B). History of Matthew Paris and other Chronicles.

Fol. 1. "Cronica a principio mundi sub compendio compilata. In principio creavit Deus. . . .—. . . Eneas cum 24 navibus in Ytaliam cum Latino rege." The rest is not copied.

Fol. 3. "Narracio de quadam visione sancti Thome Cantuarensis. Quando ego Thomas,

[1] Our space admits of a selection only from these notices.

Cantuariensis archiepiscopus, exiens ab Anglia . . .—. . . et dolor habundabit super miseram Egiptum."

Fol. 3 vo "De quodam fratre de ordine Minorum qui se asserebant (*sic*) dicere mirabilia. Erat quidam de ordine Minorum qui se asserebat dicere mirabilia . . .—. . . et in posterum humiliet viles habitatores."

Fol. 4. "Descriptio regni Angliæ sub compendio compilata. Anglia que quondam a Bruto Britannia vocabatur . . .—. . . cuidam Radulpho de Mounthermer conjugio copulatur, Margaretam que postea desponsata fuit duci." The conclusion is wanting.

Fol. 10. "Libellus de emendacione vite sive de regula vivendi . . . Ne tardes converti ad Dominum . . .—. . . melodia ipsum eternaliter laudare, cui sit honor, etc."

Fol. 20 vo. Picture of Purgatory. "Hac qui transitis subscripta videre velitis . . . — . . . ubi tot conveniunt caritatis insignia. Hec Bernardus."

Fol. 24. History of England, by Matthew Paris, from 1067 to 1208. "Incipit prologus in historiam Anglorum post conquisicionem Anglie a Normannorum duce Wilelmo. De cronographia id est temporum descriptione locuturi . . . — . . . in terra interdicta sine fructu residere."—Cp. Matthew Paris, *Historia minor*, ed. Sir F. Madden, vol. 1, Preface.

XV cent. Paper; ff. 156; 295 by 225 millim. Half-bound (Colbert, 3121).

49. (Lat. 9134).—Register of documents relating to the administration of Bordeaux and Guienne, chiefly in the reign of Henry VI of England.[1]

The first of these documents is a commission given by Henry VI to John Radclyf, Seneschal of Guienne (13 June 1423): the last is a letter to John, Earl of Shrewsbury (20 March 1452).

Many of the articles are earlier than the reign of Henry VI, among others: a charter of 1077 relating to the property which the Abbey of Maillezais possessed at Bordeaux (fol. 81): —a charter of John Lackland in favour of Hélie Vigier, citizen of Bordeaux, 20 June 1204 (fol. 88 vo);—a charter of Philippe le Bel in favour of the Commune of Bordeaux, December 1295 (fol. 48);—documents relating to Bertrand de Got, Bishop of Agen, end of XIII Cent. (fol. 29, ss.)—Cp. *Archives hist. du départ. de la Gironde*, 1878, vol. xvi.

XV Cent. Parchm.; ff. 119; 400 by 292 millim. Binding morocco, with arms of Colbert (Colbert 47).

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[1] "Edouard" in the original is an obvious error.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

AT the May Monthly Meeting Mr. Henry Bradshaw will read a Paper on "Early Printed Bibles."

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING.

The March Monthly Meeting was held at the London Institution on March 8th, Mr. H. R. Tedder in the chair.

It was announced that the following gentlemen had become Members of the Association:—Mr. S. TEGIMA, of the Educational Department, Tokio, Japan; Councillor JAMES SUTHERLAND and Baillie GEORGE WALKER, Members of the Committee of the Free Public Library, Aberdeen.

The following gentlemen, having been duly proposed at the last monthly meeting, were elected Members: Mr. J. BROWNBILL, Gainsborough; Mr. Fred. SMITH, Halifax; Mr. A. A. NEWMAN, London; Mr. W. SWAN SONNENSCHEIN, London; Prof. THORPE, Leeds; Mr. Edward WALFORD, London; and Mr. John WHELDON, London.

Mr. A. NICHOLSON, Town Clerk, Oldham, was proposed for election at the next meeting.

The Secretary reported that a reply had been received from the Assistant-Controller of the Stationery Office, acknowledging the receipt of the resolution passed by the last Monthly Meeting, as to the binding of the Calendars of State Papers, and announcing that the new binding had been settled after consultation with the Master of the Rolls, and that it was not likely to be altered. Mr. H. R. Tedder then read his paper on "The Barkers, and the Early History of the Royal Patent for Printing the Bible." After a short discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper.

The Meeting then adjourned.

Library Notes and News.

BRADFORD.—In compliance with a memorial from the "Free Library Sunday Opening Society," the Library and Art Gallery was opened to the public on Christmas Day between the hours of two and eight p.m. Nearly 4,500 persons entered during these hours.

HUDDERSFIELD.—We are sorry to learn that the offers recently made by Mr. Joseph Crosland and Sir John Ramsden have been declined by the Council, and that the Free Library Question has probably been shelved for some time to come. Mr. Crosland just offered to give £5,000 for a Free Library, provided that a certain amount was subscribed by others. This was not taken up; and more recently Mr. Crosland offered to contribute £1,000 towards purchasing books for a free library, and to furnish rooms for the same. Sir John Ramsden also offered rent-free for ten years, rooms in the Kirkgate Buildings, just built by him. The Corporation, however, has again refused to put into force the powers it possesses under a local Act, or to adopt the Free Libraries Act. It has thanked Mr. Crosland and Sir John Ramsden, but has nevertheless refused their offer, on the ground that it is not prepared at present to increase the rates.

LEEDS: THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.—At a meeting of the Library Committee of the Leeds Corporation held yesterday afternoon, Alderman Lupton presiding, it was decided to recommend the Council to increase the salaries of Mr. Yates, chief librarian, from £250 to £275; of Mr. C. Kirby, assistant librarian, from £130 to £150; and of Mr. A. Green, assistant in the lending library, from £100 to £110. It was further decided to recommend the Council to levy a rate of a halfpenny in

the pound for library purposes during the ensuing half year; and to make an offer of a number of worn-out books to the War authorities, for the use of the soldiers in the Soudan. The committee also desire the Council to ask the Borough Members to apply to the authorities for copies of Government publications to be forwarded to the library.

LEIGH.—Lord Lilford, President of the British Ornithologist's Union, has presented a number of scientific books to the reference library, which is being formed by the Leigh Literary Society. The Society propose to hand this library over to the town if the Libraries Acts are adopted.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM. — The Lords of the Treasury have informed the Trustees that, bearing in mind the result of the division in the House of Commons on the motion for opening Museums in 1882, they are unable to sanction the proposal made by the Trustees for opening the Natural History Museum on Sundays. Lord Thurlow has given notice of a motion on the subject in the House of Lords.

The Article "Horace" has been added to the "Excerpts" from the General Catalogue, which have been separately issued.

LONDON: HAMPSTEAD. — The Hampstead Public Library after fifty years of existence, was re-opened on Feb. 25th, in its new quarters, Stanfield House, High Street, by Sir Spencer Wells. The occasion of the opening was celebrated by a small loan exhibition of pictures and drawings. The exhibition was open to the public on Thursday, Feb. 26, from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

NORTHWICH. — Mr. J. T. Brunner, of Winnington Hall, has given to the town of Northwich buildings in Witton Street, for a public free library and museum. The buildings when completed will be worth about £2,000, and the Duke of Westminster will formally open them. Mr. Brunner has just supplemented the gift by £1,000 with which to purchase books for the library.

PLYMOUTH. — The Committee of the Public Library will meet on March 17th, to form a Special Committee for the purpose of making arrangements for the next Annual Meeting of the Library Association. We are glad to learn that an effort is being made to collect information as to the libraries of the Western Counties, and hope that some valuable material may be laid before the Annual Meeting.

Mr. R. R. Bowker writes to us from New York: "You saw doubtless that it is planned to hold the next Conference at Boston, the latter part of June, or early in July, when the Commencement of Harvard College is held in Cambridge, which is a suburb of Boston. We hope very much that some of the working librarians will be able to get over for that date. We should be very glad to know at your earliest convenience what the prospects are, as if there are no prospects, it is proposed not to go to Boston, but to one of the summer resorts at a date when the Americans can more easily get together.

I have been planning to get over later in the Spring, and to see again my English friends; and I still live in hopes of doing so. In that case I should try and take a run about England, and beg some of you to 'come over and help us.'"

The March number of the *Centralblatt fur Bibliothekswesen* contains articles on the question of the salaries of Prussian Library officials; on Dr. Keysser's paper in the previous number on the Preparation of Alphabetical Catalogues, and on the "Catalogisirung der Programme." Dr. Hartwig gives a notice of Dr. Sieber's discovery of the important Gutenberg document, of which Mr. Bullen gave us an account at Dublin.

The February number of the *Library Journal* has an article by J. Schwartz on "An Alphabetico-Mnemonic System of Classifying and Numbering Books," and "A Sketch of the Waltham Public Library," by Andrew J. Lathrop. There are also reprinted from the *New York Tribune* some interesting extracts from G. W. Smalley's London letters, in which Mr. Smalley discusses some recent English book-sales, and the state of English bibliography, with some free observations on Mr. Quaritch's influence upon the latter.

Two numbers of the *Neuer Anzeiger*, under its new editor, Professor Joseph Kurschner of Stuttgart, have been issued, and are much upon the old lines. Dr. Petzholdt's name as founder is retained upon the cover.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Newark Stock Library. Catalogue of Books in the Newark Stock Library, compiled by Hy. Midworth, Acting Librarian. Newark, 1884. La. 8vo, pp. viii, 108.

A Catalogue of upwards of 18,000 volumes, clearly printed in double columns. It is compiled on the Dictionary system, and the contents of collectaneous books are set out. The rules of the Library are prefixed.

Borough of Portsmouth. Free Public Library. Catalogue of Books in the Reference and Lending Department, compiled by Tweed D. A. Jewers, Librarian. Portsmouth, 1884. Sm. 8vo, pp. xviii, 143, with supplement, pp. 97, cloth back.

An alphabetical author-catalogue, in which the contents of encyclopædias, periodicals and collectaneous works are very fully set out. Thus, the contents of the Encyclopædia Britannica occupy nearly 16 pages. It is entered, however, under the name of the Editor, Baynes, without a cross reference. The compiler has also, in some cases, added opinions of the books catalogued.

Birmingham Library. Annual Meeting, Report, and Proceedings. January 28th, 1885. La. 8vo, pp. 12.

The Annual Report of the Committee shows that the number of members at the end of the year was 1,445, who paid £1,606 8s. 6d. The total receipts were £1,725 6s. 1d., and the expenditure a little more. The number of volumes added was 1,113. The necessity for extending the premises is becoming more urgent, and the Committee recommend the issue of an appeal to the proprietors for donations for this object.

Borough of Plymouth. Eighth Annual Report of the Free Public Library and News-Rooms Committee, 1884. Plymouth, 1885. 8vo, pp. 39.

The receipts from all sources were £823 14s. 8d., and the expenditure exceeded this sum by about £60. The issues of books for the year were 164,568, a decrease of about 15,000, due to the closing of the Libraries for part of the year, and to the fine weather last summer. The stock was increased by 2,464 volumes. The Report is followed by full statistical tables.

Sixth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library and Museum of the Borough of Preston, for the year ending December 31st, 1884. Preston. 8vo, pp. 19.

During the year 669 vols. were added to the Library. The issues for home-reading were 102,599 vols., the largest number since the opening of the Library, and the visitors to the Reading Room were 434,366, without including the visitors to the Museum and Newsham Picture Gallery. The rate produced £1,095, and the expenditure was £1,361 2s. 5d., which still leaves a large unexpended balance in hand.

Toronto. First Annual Report of the Toronto Public Library. 1883-4. Toronto, 1885. 8vo, pp. 20.

The first report of the Toronto Public Library is a very encouraging document. The number of volumes in the libraries (Central and two branches) at the end of the year was 34,834. During the 229 days on which the libraries were open the issues were 179,503 volumes, of which 102,508 were from the Central library, the rest at the two branches. The proportion of fiction issued was about 70 per cent. The number of readers' tickets in use at the end of the year was 8,156. The number of visitors to the reading-rooms is estimated at 400,000. The library rate for the year 1884 produced $16,540; the total income for the first year, including grants, was $24,967.22.

The First Annual Report of the Portsmouth Free Public Library states that 4,050 volumes have been added since the library was opened, making a total of 7,250. The issues for the year were 127,843, and the regular borrowers from the Lending Department numbered 2,458.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

The Function of a Public Library and its Value to a Community. By Frederick M. Crunden. St. Louis, 1884. 8vo, pp. 22.

A paper read before "the Round Table" at St. Louis Club, on Nov. 1884, containing a brief review of the history of libraries in the United States and a plea for libraries as promoters of civilization.

"The Father of Black-Letter Collectors." Memoir of the Right Rev. John Moore, D.D., Lord Bishop of Ely. By the Rev. Cecil Moore, M.A. London: Stock, 1885. Small 8vo, pp. 39.

A very neat reprint of the Paper contributed to the *Bibliographer*, adorned with an autotype portrait of the Bishop. The writer tells us that the Bishop's life has never been otherwise than cursorily dealt with, and hopes at some future time to publish his correspondence.

Manuale di Bibliografia di Guiseppe Ottino. Illustrato con 11 incisioni. Milano: Hoepli, 1885. 18mo. pp. vi. 158.

This little work, which forms one of Hoepli's Manuals, is divided into five parts, viz.: i. Invention and progress of printing. ii. Books. iii. Bindings of books. iv. The Library and its Catalogue. v. A list of bibliographical works in various languages. It is written in an easy style and well deserves perusal. The short list of cataloguing terms used for English, French, German and Italian books, with their abbreviations is well done.

Several of the papers in the London and Cambridge volume have been reprinted. Mr. Henry Stevens has reprinted his paper "Who spoils our new English Books?" in a beautiful little volume, intended, we presume, to show "how to do it," which does great credit to Mr. Stevens and the Chiswick Press. Mr. Tedder's paper on "Librarianship as a Profession" has been very elegantly reprinted also at the Chiswick Press, and Mr. Wright's paper "On Librarians and Local Bibliography" has been reproduced in the *Western Antiquary*, and reprinted from that journal as "A Plea for a Devonshire Bibliography."

We have received from Mr. Small, Librarian of the University of Edinburgh, a "Biographical Memoir of David Laing, LL.D." reproduced from the second edition of the "Select Remains of the Ancient Popular and Romance Poetry of Scotland." Mr. Small has put together with excellent judgment the main facts of David Laing's long and honorable career in the form of annals, accompanied by a steel portrait engraved from Herdman's picture of 1874.

We understand that in consequence of ill-health Dr. Dickson has been obliged to hand over the materials for his proposed work on the "Introduction of the Art of Printing" to Mr. J. P. Edmond, who will now complete the undertaking. The book will be published by subscription.

Our honorary member, Prof. Dziatzko has contributed to the *Zeitschrift des Vereins für Geschichte und Altherthümer Schlesiens*, a paper publishing some new facts as to Caspar Elyan, the first Breslau printer.

Prince Ibrahim, the son of ex-Khedive Ismail Pasha is completing a work in two volumes which will shortly be published in London, entitled the Bibliography of Egypt, and the author commences his researches with the epoch of the Pharoahs.

We hear of the death of Mr. W. H. Wells of Chicago, the owner of a very remarkable collection of dictionaries and grammars of the English language, which it is hoped may be preserved unbroken in some public library.

It is announced that an arrangement has been made by which Mr. Frey's materials for a dictionary of pseudonyms are to be added to those of Mr. Cushing, and the publishers of the latter have issued a prospectus from which we learn that the work is to be called "Initials and Pseudonyms: a Dictionary of Literary Disguises." The subscription price is, in cloth $5; half morocco $7.50.

The Winter Number of the *Bulletin of the Boston Public Library*, besides the usual lists of accessions, continues the "Index of Articles upon American Local History."

The January number of the *Harvard University Bulletin*, continues the account of the "Kohl Collection of Early Maps" and begins a "Classified Index to the Maps contained in the Publications of the Royal Geographical Society and in Associated Serials, 1830-1883," by Richard Bliss, of the Redwood Library, Newport, R.I.

We look forward with much interest to the work in which Mr. Thomas Mason proposes to describe the Public and Private Libraries of Glasgow. The Library of which Mr. Mason himself has charge contains many valuable works; the Euing Library is one of the most valuable of Musical Libraries, and the Mitchell Library, though young in years, already possesses important special collections. Besides these public libraries Mr. Mason will describe no less than *thirteen* important private libraries. The edition will be limited to 450 copies.

In one of the forthcoming parts of the British Museum Catalogue may be found a curious illustration of the immense strides made at the Museum. We refer to the article Jeremy Bentham. In the old printed catalogue of Sir Henry Ellis and Mr. Baber, the corresponding portion of which was printed in 1813, the *only* entry to be found under that name is the Traités de législation civile et pénale of Dumont. No single English work of the great law reformer is to be found, and the cataloguer, though he does indeed state him, probably from Dumont's title-page, to be a 'Jurisc. Anglois,' spells his christian name in the heading of the entry 'JE'RE'ME.' The entries in the catalogue now printing under his name occupy nine columns, and must number nearly two hundred. In the same part we find the great name of Bentley, and a very interesting list of books annotated by Bentley, which are in the Museum Library. They number nearly eighty.

Correspondence.

Shelf Arrangement of Periodicals.

I have much pleasure in replying to "C. W. S.'s" inquiry respecting the method of marking periodicals employed at the British Museum. There is a general press mark for the whole series; PP., denoting Periodical Publications. Each periodical is further provided with a number; PP. 1, PP. 2, etc. These numbers are further arranged in the order of subjects, following as nearly as possible the system adopted for non-serial works. When a periodical is added to the library, it is inserted in its proper place according to subject, and further distinguished by a letter or letters of the alphabet. Thus, should a new periodical need to be inserted between PP. 1 and PP. 2, it would be marked PP. 1 a; should another follow, it would be marked PP. 1 b; should the entire alphabet to 3 be thus exhausted, the next ensuing periodical would be distinguished by a double letter, PP. 1. aa; and so on, *ad infinitum*. It is thus impossible for the series ever to get out of order, while it is as easy to find PP. 1. aa on the shelf as PP. 1 only.

R. Garnett.

In answer to several correspondents the Editor begs to state that the next instalment of the *Transactions* (p. 97 foll.) will be issued to members with the April number of the Chronicle.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. Davy & Sons, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 8*s*.

The Library Chronicle.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM CATALOGUE OF ENGLISH BOOKS PRINTED BEFORE 1640.[1]

By Henry R. Tedder.

THE warm thanks of all librarians, bibliographers and booklovers, are due to the Trustees of the British Museum for these three volumes,[2] which supply another instance of the liberal and enterprising spirit marking the present policy of the custodians of our national library. The general catalogue of English literature, which has been the subject of so much more or less valuable discussion among us, can at last be fairly said to have come within the range of practical bibliography. We have here, compiled upon a consistent plan, full descriptions of the most complete collection of English literature, printed before 1640, that has ever been brought together. That the plan may be in some instances defective, and that the collection is far from being a perfect one, does not take away from the merit of the enterprise. The idea of a catalogue of all the books in the British Museum printed in England, Scotland and Ireland before 1640, as well as of the English books published abroad up to that date, is believed to have originated in a proposal of Mr. George Bullen, keeper of the printed books, submitted to the trustees during the provisional tenure by Mr. Newton of the office of principal librarian in 1878. The proposal received the sanction of the governing body, and since that time the work has been gradually carried on without interrupting the routine business of the department, and without its being necessary to increase the staff. Two or three assistants worked upon the basis of the old slips. In the preface Mr. Bullen states: "The keeper of the department has much pleasure in acknowledging the able assistance he has received from Mr. Gregory W. Eccles in preparing the catalogue for the press, and in revising the proof-sheets." The Treasury agreed to bear the cost of the catalogue, and has paid about £700 for the paper and print of 750 copies. The published price has been fixed at the very reasonable amount of £1 10s. It is to be expected that the copies will soon be all sold, and there will consequently be no money loss on this venture.

[1] Read at the December Monthly Meeting.

[2] *Catalogue of books in the library of the British Museum printed in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and of books in English printed abroad to the year* 1640. Printed by order of the trustees, London, 1884, 3 vols. 8vo. Price £1 10s.

The catalogue presents itself in the shape of three demy octavo volumes, extending to 1,787 pages. The titles are given full; in many cases literal copies, with few omissions. It should be remembered, and it is a subject for regret, that the work has not been compiled direct from the books anew, but is based upon the former slips, some of them a hundred years old. The whole alphabet has, however, been revised and brought into conformity with the British Museum code of cataloguing rules. Printers' names are given. The press-marks are also supplied, and this useful addition makes the catalogue supersede, as far as it goes, the myriad volumes of the General Catalogue. The entries number altogether about 25,000; the main titles are about 14,000. The book is not so well printed as the Grenville Catalogue; the titles have been allowed to run over unduly in many instances. At the end are two indexes, double columns, small type, of which something will be said presently. Here and there notes are added; certain of them might have been omitted without loss. What is the use of giving space to such observations as "without pagination," "cropped copy," "interleaved," &c.? "Engraved title page" supplies some information; the notification of imperfections is useful, but "title page slightly mutilated" is quite unnecessary. It is, of course, sometimes difficult to draw the line between bibliographical and cataloguing notes, but those upon Dame Juliana Bernes and the early Bibles are somewhat too discursive. On the other hand an example of a useful note may be found added to *Exposicio sancti Jeronimi in simbolum apostolorum*, the work printed at Oxford in 1478, with the misprint of 1468, on which is based its claim for being the first book printed in England. Neither can one grudge the long note describing the Perpetual Calendar on vellum, supposed to have been printed in London in 1490. Lengthy collations of comparatively common books might well be left to special bibliographies. In accordance with the provisions of the Museum code, anonymous books are entered under the chief subject-word. How practically inconvenient this is may be seen in the fact that the two first editions of Raleigh's *History of the World* are under History, and only appear under Raleigh in the shape of cross-references, and even then apart from the other editions issued with the author's name. The familiar absurdity of Rome, Church of, is preserved. The Greek is without accents.

Theology and the more serious, not to say the duller, studies form the bulk of the collection. One result of stopping at 1640 has been very largely to exclude the original editions of the classics; what translations there were before that time came chiefly through the French. Shakespeare occupies seventeen columns. The date again excludes *Fair Em.* Karl Elze points out (in the *Centralblatt*) that the edition of *Mucedorus* (1629?) is a spurious one. Spenser extends to three columns. Milton is represented solely by the first edition of *Lycidas* (1638) and by *Comus* (1637). There are only two entries under Rabelais.

The question naturally arises: What number of books are there still wanting to make a complete collection down to the time fixed upon? Mr. Blades gave us a list of 103 Caxtons in 1877, and one may expect that the forthcoming life in the *Dictionary of National Biography* will increase the number. The British Museum owns 57 Caxtons (many imperfect), besides 27 duplicates. There are 57 Caxtons at Althorp, of which 31 are perfect and 3 unique. Wynkyn de Worde is supposed to have printed between 300 and 400 books. The British Museum has 192 of them, besides 14 duplicates. Between 150 and 200 works came from the press of Pynson, but the

Museum only possesses 121, besides 19 duplicates. The publication of this catalogue has enabled Mr. Falconer Madan to make an exact comparison between the number of the Oxford books at the Bodleian and those in Bloomsbury up to 1640. Thanks to Mr. Madan's obliging courtesy I am able to reproduce the result of his valuable and interesting calculation:

	B. M. & Bodl.	B. M. only.	Bodl. only.	Other.	Doubtful.	Total.
XV. Cent.	6	1	3	4	1	15
1517-19	0	0	4	1	2	7
1585-1600	47	15	34	10	19	125
1601-1620	130	20	69	26	11	256
1621-1640	184	33	107	44	25	393
Total ...	367	69	217	85	58	796

The British Museum has about 55 per cent. of all the Oxford books, and the Bodleian about 73 per cent. Many of the "doubtful" will eventually disappear; and some "no date" books will have to be added.

Taking generally the books represented in the catalogue it would be safe to calculate that the Museum possesses only about one-half of those known. This is scarcely creditable to the best traditions of our national collection, and it is to be hoped that the trustees may take special measures to make good some of the deficiencies disclosed by Mr. Bullen's catalogue.

There are two indexes; the first of subjects and the second of printers, &c. The index of subjects is arranged alphabetically, and is a valuable contribution to our materials for the history of English literature. It also serves as a guide to anonymous books, as well as to that much larger class of those whose authors' names have been forgotten by the inquirer. We all have experienced the usefulness of Watt's *Bibliotheca* under such conditions. Dates are added; so that under such headings as *Arithmetic*, *Astronomy*, *Letter Writing*, *Plague*, &c., to take a few at random, we find displayed a list of the authors who have discussed these subjects. *Ballads*, *Plays*, *Poems* and *Songs*, show a more elaborate arrangement. Instead of merely the author's names, the titles and dates of the works are given with reference to the headings under which they may be sought in the catalogue. There are 432 entries under Poems, and 420 under Plays, 211 under Ballads, and 41 under Songs. The headings of *Dictionaries*, *England*, *Grammars*, *Liturgies*, *Sea Fights*, *Voyages and Travels*, and *Wonders*, *Portents*, &c., are also of unusual length and interest. Some such title as *Romance or Fiction* would have been much more practically useful than that of Sermons, which was at one time in contemplation. Indeed, a larger extension of the class-heading, as opposed to the merely verbal heading, might have been advisable. The following are some of the chief subjects and dates dealt with in the index:—Alchemy (1585-1623); Algiers (1625-1640); Anatomy (1532-1638); Antichrist (1529-1631); Arithmetic (1543-1634); Armory, Heraldic (1486-1610); Artillery (1587-1628); Astrology (1533-1626); Astronomy (1530-1636); Breda, siege of (1627-1637); Chess (1474-1614); Conscience (1525-1640); Cookery (1588-1621); Court Baron (1516-1628); Donatists (1590-1631); Drawing, art of (1573-1635); Duels (1591-1636); East Indies, Voyages (1598-1633); Epitaphs (1566-1639); Eye, diseases of the (1616-1626); Faith (1611-1635); Family of Love (1574-1579); Fasting (1596-1633);

Fireworks (1628-1635); Fishing (1486-1630); Florida (1563-1609); Fortification (1589-1639); Gardening (1563-1631); Geography (1559-1634); Geometry (1551-1635); Grammar, English (1590-1640); Grammar, French (1604-1636); Grammar, Latin (1481-1640); Guiana (1596-1627); Gunnery (1628-1639); Gunpowder Plot (1605-1640); Gunshot wounds (1590-1628); Health (1528-1634); Heraldry (1572-1640); Herbals (1525-1640); Heresy (1565-1638); Horsemanship (1565-1624); Horses (1572-1636); Housewifery (1571-1639); Hunting (1486-1632); Husbandry (1525-1634); Idolatry (1534-1624); Kneeling at the Lord's Supper (1605-35); Law Reports (1495-1609); Letter-writing (1576-1638); Life and Death (1592-1617); Logarithms (1614-35); Logic (1522-1637); Lord's Supper (1533-1636); Marriage (1518-1624); Martyrs, Protestant (1559-1639); Mass (1532-1637); Medicine (1539-1640); Memory (1563-1618); Moral Philosophy (1547-1632); Music (1586-1636); Navigation (1550-1637); Netherlands, Wars (1583-1618); New England (1625-37); Newfoundland (1598-1623); North West Passage (1576-1635); Oath of Allegiance (1607-34); Oaths (1563-1639); Orchards (1609-31); Oxford University (1568-1608); Philosopher's Stone (1591-1624); Physic (1547-1640); Plague (1480-1639); Pope's Temporal Power (1609-1621); Poultry (1518-1614); Prayers, Private (1570-1628); Predestination (1550-1631); Prelates (1525-1640); Prophecies concerning Church of Rome (1548-1614); Protestant Religion (1601-38); Proverbs (1566-1640); Purgatory (1482-1625); Puritans (1602-40); Real Presence (1553-1634); Redemption of Man (1514-1617); Repentance (1583-1631); Resurrection (1545-1636); Rhetoric (1524-1634); Roman History (1592-1638); Royal Progresses (1558-1618); Royal Supremacy (1546-1623); Sabbath (1595-1638); Sacraments (1510-1603); Sacrilege (1590-1619); Silk and Silk Worms (1599-1622); Singing (1596-1620); Sorcery (1575-1612); South Sea Voyages (1598-1622); Subjects, duty of (1556-1639); Succession to the Crown (1584-1603); Summer Islands, description (1613-24); Surgery (1525-1636); Surveying (1523-1616); Synonyms (1500-1612); Syntax, Latin (1517-1633); Syphilis (1533-1622); Tithes (1585-1640); Tobacco (1602-35); Transubstantiation (1548-1638); Trent, Council of (1562-1638); Urine, Diagnosis by (1530-1637); Usury (1563-1640); War, Art of (1560-1639); Witches, &c. (1560-1636); Writing (1571-1638).

The second index is one of printers, booksellers, and stationers, who number altogether 1299. The works printed or sold by them are indicated, and the dates given within which period they are represented in the library. The following printers are the chief contributors:—Edward Allde (1585-1633); Joseph Barnes (1585-1633); John Bill (1604-30); Nath. Butter (1605-40); Henry Bynnemann (1567-87); John Day (1546-84); Richard Field (1588-1624); T. Harper (1626-40); Felix Kyngston (1597-1640); Thomas Man (1579-1624); the elder and younger John Norton (1590-1640); Nicolas Okes (1606-39); Richard Pynson (1493-1527); William Stansby (1609-40); John Windet (1584-1610); John Wolfe (1560-1601); Wynkyn de Worde (1495-1534).

The bibliography of English books printed abroad is an extremely interesting subject, which, with the exception of one or two special treatises, such as Cotton's *Rhemes and Doway*, and Frere *Des livres de Liturgie des Églises d'Angleterre imprimés à Rouen*, has never been adequately worked out. There is no available list of foreign printers who have issued English books, and the present seems a convenient opportunity for commencing such a list. Here are those, with their dates, represented in the catalogue. The names remain as they appear on the imprints:

J. Adam, Paris (1516-21).
J. Amazeur, Paris (1555).
H. Antony, widow, Brussels (1633).
H. Ash, Dort (1639).
D. Aubri, Hanaw (1607).
P. Auroy, Douay (1631).
Ant. Baio, Paris (1585).
John Baldwin, Paris (1502).
Felix Balligault, Paris (1494).
J. Bellerus, Douay (1575).
Bernard, Rouen (1517).
J. Bienayse, Paris (1516-21).
A. Birckman, Cologne (1561-8).
Mistress Blageart, Paris (1636-7).
Andrea Bocard, Paris (1502).
Martin Bogart, Douay (1630).
C. Boscard, S. Omers (1614).
Jan Bouwenszoon, Leyden (1586).
Myghell Boys, Geneva (1545-50?).
C. Gerrits van Breughel, Netherlands (1632).
T. Brumean, Paris (1573-82).
R. Bruney, Antwerp (1605).
Francis Byrckman, Antwerp and Paris (1515-27).
John Caillard, Rouen (1518).
G. Candos, Rouen (1509).
Isaac Canin, Dort (1597-9).
R. Carmarden, Rouen (1566).
C. Chevallon, Paris (1531).
W. Christian, Leyden (1634).
Christoffel of Endhoue, widow, Antwerp (1534).
J. Class, Leyden (1616).
J. Coccius, Antwerp (1541).
Arnold Conings, Antwerp (1601-6).
M. A. Constantius [Basle?] (1555).
N. Courant, Rouen (1630).
———————— widow (1633).
J. Cousturier, Rouen and Paris (1633-6).
J. Crispin, Geneva (1556-70).
M. Crom, Antwerp (1583).
Ægidius Diest, Antwerp (1565).
J. Doesborke, Antwerp (?1503-10).
J. Dooms, Ghent (1632).
A. Edmonds, Basle (1555?).
T. Emlos, Basle (1540?).
Chr. Endoviensis, Antwerp (1523-30).
J. Fogny, Rhemes (1582-3).
J. Fouler, Antwerp, &c. (1567-78).
F. Foxe, Strasburg (1530).
J. Frellon, Lyons (1549).
A. Fries, Zurich (1547).
C. Froschover, Zurich (1550).
J. Gryphius, Venice (1551).
P. Guerin [Paris?] (? 1515-20).
C. Hamillon, Rouen (1554-5).
G. Hardouyn, Paris (1530).
E. Hardy, Rouen (1518).
Hastenius, Louvain (1627).
H. Hastings, Leyden (1610).
J. Heigham, St. Omers and Douay (1613-31).
J. Hellenius, Middleburgh (1620).
J. Hertzog de Landoia, Venice (1494).
H. Holost, Bruges (1576).
H. Hondius, Amsterdam (1630).
W. Hopyl, Paris (1495-1520).
L. Hostingue, Rouen (1506).
N. Hygman, Paris (1520?).
P. Hyry, Paris (1588).
H. Jackson, The Hague (1622).
H. Jaey, Mechlin (1622).
A. Janss, Gorkum (1624).
John of Doesborowe, (Antwerp, 1522?).
M. J. Johnson, Amsterdam (1638).
W. Johnson, Amsterdam (1612).
J. Keerbergius, Antwerp (1600).
L. Kellam, Douay and Louvain (1598-1639).
J. Kerbriant, Paris (1516).
T. Kerver, Paris (1497-1534).
T. L., Amsterdam (1611).
J. Laet, Antwerp (1565).
T. Lappagde, Rotterdam (1640).
J. Latius, Antwerp (1564-5).
G. Leeu, Antwerp (1488).
M. Lempereur, Antwerp (1531).
J. Le Prest, Rouen (1554-5).
N. Le Roux, Rouen (1538).
G. Le Tailleur, (Rouen 1495?).
H. Loë, Antwerp (1578).
H. Luft, Marburg and Wittenburg (1528-48).
J. Lyon, Douay and Louvain (1580).
D. Maheu, Paris (1526).
J. Massen, Leyden (1624?).
J. Mauditier, Rouen (1502).
G. Merlin, Paris (1555-6).
J. Mestals, Paris (1640).
A. Meuris, The Hague (1621).
M. Michel, Rouen (1615).
J. Mommart, Brussels (1634).
G. Morberius, Liege (1571).
M. Morin, Rouen (1492-1508).
A. Muris, The Hague (1621).
A. Myllar, Rouen (1506).
J. Nafield, Paris (1587-89).
Nicholas (Bamburg, 1550?)
J. Nicol, Frankfort (1628).
M. A. van der Nolck, Flushing (1622).
P. Olivier, Rouen (1502-20).
J. Paedtz, Leyden (1586).
C. de Passe, Utrecht (1615).

J. Pepermans, Brussels (1628).
T. Petit, Paris (1521-54).
P. Pigouchet, Paris (1498-1501).
G. Pinchon, Douay (1629-30).
C. Plantyn, Leyden (1586).
J. Poullain, Geneva (1558).
N. Prevost, Paris (1510-27).
S. Prevosteau, Paris (1602).
A. Quinqué, Tournay (1623).
P. Quentell, Cologne (1525).
F. Raphelengius, Leyden (1586-93).
J. Rauynell, Rouen (1495).
F. Regnault, Paris (1526-55).
B. Rembolt, Paris (1513).
D. van Respeawe, Middleburg (1584).
J. W. Resslin, Stuttgart (1616).
J. Ricardus, Paris (1497).
S. de Roy, Utrecht (1615).
N. Rufi, Rouen (1543).
C. Ruremond, Antwerp (1524-45.)
H. V. Ruremond, [Antwerp?] (1535).
M. S., Rotterdam (1626-9).
J. Schellum, Utrecht (1626).
A. Schilders, Middleburg (1620).
R. Schilders, Middleburg (1584-1616).
J. Schönfeld, Hamburg (1615).
J. Seldenslach, Antwerp (1621).
P. Sevestre, Paris (1603).
J. F. Stam, Amsterdam (1637-39).
Stoltzenberger, Frankfort (1628).
H. Taylor, Douay (1624).
P. Telv, Douay (1618).
G. Thorp, Amsterdam (1609-19).
J. Trognesius, Antwerp (1587-96).
J. Troost, Aurich (1561).
D. Turner's Heirs, Frankfort (1601).
F. de Turona, Geneva? (1550?).
R. Valentine, Rouen (1554-5).
A. Verard, Paris (1506).
D. Vervliet, Antwerp (1600).
G. Veseler, Amsterdam (1618-4).
R. Verstegan, Antwerp (1603).
N. Vincentz, Dort (1623).
P. Violette, Rouen (1509).
J. Voorn, Leyden (1591).
S. Vostre, Paris (1501).
I. van Waesberghe, Rotterdam (1636).
G. Waters, Dort (1614-23).
J. Wechel, Frankfort (1590).
M. Wenssler, Basle (1486?).
C. Willems, Muenster (1533).
M. Wodde, Rouen (1554).
M. Wood, Geneva (1545).
H. Jacobs van Wouw, The Hague (1681).
M. Wyon's Widow, Douay (1632-40.)

The bibliography of modern English literature is in a most unsatisfactory condition. We are fortunately much better off as regards earlier periods. The first attempt to compile an English catalogue was by Maunsell in 1595, with his *Catalogue of English printed bookes*. Another list of Latin and English books came out in 1631, and the *Catalogue of the most vendible books in England, orderly and alphabetically digested*, by Wm. London, a publisher of Newcastle, in 1658-60. Other catalogues followed, but the foundation stone of English bibliography is the *Typographical Antiquities* of Joseph Ames, produced in 1749 in one volume quarto, which was enlarged to three volumes by William Herbert in 1785-6-90. Dibdin undertook to bring out a new edition "considerably augmented, both in the memoirs and number of books," and between 1810 and 1819 published four handsome quartos, but he was obliged to stop when he had only described about 3,000 books and had got as far as 1580. The present work, dealing with the English press from Caxton to the Long Parliament, and with the original editions of English authors from Chaucer to Milton, must prove of priceless value to the national bibliographer of the future. The publication has already been extremely beneficial in bringing many unlooked for offers and gifts of *libri desiderati*. The same effect followed the appearance of the unofficial special catalogues of Mr. J. P. Anderson of the English topography, and of Mr. Henry Stevens of American books. It would be well worth the while of booksellers to get these volumes and look out for books not to be found in them, as the Museum authorities will doubtless be eager to purchase any wanting.

It is the constant experience of librarians that special catalogues cause the books therein described to be in more request by readers. Mr. Anderson's catalogue just

mentioned, has largely increased the demand for topography at the Museum. Mr. Bullen's catalogue, in the same manner, will also increase the demand for early English books. It may be objected that much of the increment does not represent a real demand, and that it has been principally caused by the simplification of the process of getting the books. But it is not our province to investigate the motives of readers, and if the objection were pressed to a logical conclusion, it would strike at the root of all endeavours to aid the reader. The chief object of a library is that the books should be used as much as possible by those having a right to read. The chief duty of a librarian is, to use Mr. Bradshaw's formula, "To save the time of the reader." There can be no doubt that cheap printed catalogues such as this will largely increase the practical usefulness of the national collection. Their value for reference in other and smaller libraries is too obvious to need more than a passing allusion.

It was well to stop at 1640, before the rise of the controversial activity of the civil war time. It is to be hoped that the success which has attended the publication of these volumes may induce the trustees to continue the catalogue some time or other down to at least the end of the seventeenth century, which, upon the same scale, would demand a second alphabet in about ten more volumes. If the authorities could be induced to take the matter up, they would be doing a useful work to produce a catalogue of all *foreign works* up to 1520, merely a brief index like Maitland's list of the Lambeth books before 1600. A new edition of this work will be wanted before long. Why cannot the five great libraries which enjoy the privileges of the copyright Act, the Museum, Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh and Dublin, unite in the production of a joint-catalogue, in which the books owned by each library might be indicated in some significant manner?

MEDICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY.

By J. B. Bailey.

A volume of Hospital Reports is probably one of the last places in which to look for material of a bibliographical character. In vol. 20 of the Bartholomew Hospital Reports, just issued, there are, however, no less than three papers of this kind. The volume opens with a reprint, edited by Mr. W. Morrant Baker, of the "Orders of the Hospital," from the edition of 1652. The original edition of these orders was issued, as Mr. Baker informs us in his preface, in the reign of Edward VI, and reprinted in 1580 and 1652. The exact title of the volume from which this reproduction has been made is as follows:—"Orders/and/Ordinances,/for the better government of the Hospitall/of Bartholomew the lesse./ As also/Orders enacted for Orphans and/their Portions/M.DLXXX. Together with/A briefe discourse of the laudable/Customes of London./ London/Printed by James Flesher,/Printer to that Honourable City, 1652/."

Mr. Baker has contented himself with reprinting the first part of the volume, that is to say the "Orders" only. From what is stated in "A preface to the Reader," it appears that the Hospital authorities had in those days to contend against evil reports, made in much the same style, and with just as much reason as those often levelled

against these institutions in the 19th Century. The anonymous writer of the preface tells us that "certain busie bodies more ready to espy occasion how to blame others, "than skilfull how to redress things blame-worthy indeed, yea, I fear me having all "their zeal in their tongue onely, not contented privately, one and another, among "their neighbours to hinder the profit of the poor, and to slander the good Citizens "occupied thereabout, sounded into the eares of the Preachers also, their tender con- "sideration. Who being less circumspect in crediting their matter . . . . . took upon "them to give speed and authority to the thing, each after his manner."

Four books were by the Orders to be kept "for the good order and governance of "this house." These were A Repertory, A Book of Survey, A Book of Accounts, A Journall. Most exact instructions are given for indexing these books. "And first you "shall note that before every of these Books ye must have a Calender, into the which "ye may enter by order of Letters of the A.B.C. all proper names and matters, that "shall be contained in every of them.

"And for the better accomplishing hereof, yee shall with your pen in the head of the "leafe, number the pages of every leafe, in every of these books, and then adding in "your Calender the number of the page, where the name or matter is entered in your "Book, the reader without any difficulty may turn to the same."

The Visitour of Newgate was amongst the officials of the Hospital, and the Governors seem to have had a good eye to business in laying down his duties for him. After declaring that the Visitour is "faithfully and dilligently to visit all the poor and miserable captives within the Prison of Newgate," he is warned against corruption and bribery. The orders then proceed "And whatsoever person you shall perceive to have "substance, and to be minded to bestow somewhat thereof in deeds of charity, ye shall "exhort him or them, to bestow some part to the reliefe of the needy and diseased "persons of this house." Full details are given of the duties of all the officials, and "the wages each is to receive. The orders close with "A Thanksgiving unto Almighty "God to be said by the poor that are cured in the Hospitall, at the time of their "delivery from thence, upon their knees in the Hall before the Hospitaler, and two "masters of this House at the least," and "A passe-port to be delivered to the "Poore."

The second paper to which allusion has been made is by Dr. Norman Moore, and is entitled "The History of the First Treatise on Rickets." The two claimants for the honour of having written the first treatise on this disease are Francis Glisson, who published his treatise "De Rachitide" in 1650, and Daniel Whistler, who in 1645 published a thesis with the title "Disputatio Medica inauguralis de Morbo puerili Anglorum, quem patrio idiomate indigenae vocant The Rickets." In 1684 Dr. Whistler was President of the College of Physicians, and in that year he reprinted his Thesis in London, with the following note on the Title-page, "Ob defectum exemplarium novis typis conservandas hasce Theses Author voluit." The dates above given show that Whistler's first edition of his Thesis was published at Leyden in 1645, whilst Glisson's book did not see the light until 1650. Dr. Norman Moore, however, draws attention to the fact that Glisson had been at work on the study of Rickets for more than five years, and that he himself gives a history of his work. This brings the date of Whistler's treatise after the time that Glisson had commenced his work, and Dr. Moore argues that it was not unlikely Whistler would choose as the subject of his thesis a question much talked of in London at the time owing to Glisson's investigations. This,

which might be only a coincidence, would not detract from Whistler's merit if the two treatises were of equal ability. Dr. Moore, however, shows that Glisson's work is the result of much pathological and clinical study, and contains an admirable account of rickets. On the other hand, Whistler made no dissections, and had not really studied the disease at all. It seems evident that late in life he wished to revive his dissertation, and obtain the credit of being the pioneer in this field of research. Whistler was probably quite capable of borrowing another man's work, as during his presidency he took occasion to defraud the College of Physicians. Dr. Moore's paper is illustrated by an autotype giving in facsimile the title pages to both editions of Whistler's Thesis.

The third paper is by Dr. W. S. Church, and is entitled "Our Hospital Pharmacopœia and Apothecary's Shop." This excellent communication begins with extracts relating to the subjects from the journals and ledgers of the Hospital, of which an unbroken series is preserved from 1547. These extracts are of great interest as showing not only the management of Hospitals at that date, but also the character of the medicines prescribed for the inmates.

The earliest printed mention of the St. Bartholomew Pharmacopœia Dr. Church has been able to find is in the "Pharmacopœia Pauperum, or dispensatory of the Hospitals of London," printed for T. Warner at the Black Boy, Paternoster Row. The subsequent editions are enumerated, and copious abstracts made from them, and also from the MS. copy of the hospital formula in Dr. Edward Browne's Note-book, dated 1670, which is amongst the Browne MSS. in the Sloane Collection at the British Museum.

Dr. Church hopes to continue his research and publish his results, and it is sincerely to be hoped not only that he will do so, but also that other Hospitals will follow this example, and publish papers of a kindred spirit, and thus accumulate most valuable material for an exceedingly interesting chapter in the History of London.

GLASGOW AND THE LIBRARIES ACT.

The rejection of the Libraries Act by the city which, in point of population and of commercial importance, claims to be the second city of the empire, is an event that deserves more than a passing notice. The fact that Glasgow already enjoys the benefits of the libraries established by the Stirling and Mitchell bequests may perhaps have induced some of the ratepayers to think that the library needs of the population are already sufficiently provided for. On the other hand it may be said, and said much more justly, that the work done at the Stirling and Mitchell Libraries, and more particularly at the latter, should have served to convince the ratepayers of the necessity of still further provision for the needs of the population. Both of these libraries are libraries of reference. Books may indeed be borrowed from the former on payment of a subscription. But the subscribers to such institutions are drawn from the higher classes of the community, and popular requirements can hardly be met by them. The Mitchell Library has, doubtless, in the ten years of its active operation rendered enormous services to the great numbers of the city population; but Glasgow is a very large place, and the sum of £70,000, magnificent as it was for a gift from an individual member of the city, is quite inadequate to provide for a library-system on such a scale

as we find at large centres of population such as Birmingham, Liverpool, or Manchester. The managers of the bequest have doubtless been right in limiting their plan to the formation of a good reference library, well supplied with such works as—to use the words of Lord Provost Blackie—"owing to the cost of their production, the splendour of their illustrations, their sumptuous typography, their antiquity or rarity, are only to be found at present in possession of a few academic and other institutions, and are virtually excluded from the inspection of the common people." And the common people, if we may judge from Mr. Barrett's annual reports, seem to have been sufficiently eager to avail themselves of the treasures thus put at their disposal,—so much so that readers have been unable to find seats, while many others have found the crowded condition of the rooms "an insuperable hindrance to their receiving wished-for benefit from the Library."

It must be remembered also that the funds at the disposal of the managers are quite inadequate to erect a suitable building for the books which have been collected, and that the work of the Library is at present carried on in unsuitable premises. As was pointed out in the last annual report of the library, the adoption of the Acts would have enabled them not only to provide a proper and suitable building for this Reference Library, but would have meant "the establishment in all the districts of the city of Lending Libraries and Reading Rooms, where the citizens could spend a profitable leisure hour near their own homes, and from which they could get the best books to read at their own firesides."

The ratepayers, however, have decided that they will not at present adopt the Acts. Some of the London newspapers have treated this refusal as an indication that the bottom of the ratepayers' pocket has been reached, and no doubt the depression of the times may have had something to do with the result. But it seems not unreasonable to conclude from the figures before us that the apathy of the ratepayer or his deficient appreciation of the eminent benefits to be reaped from a trifling expenditure have had a share in the result. The figures at least do not exclude this view. The votes were—For the adoption of the Act, 22,755; against, 29,946, or a majority of 7,191. But the number of voting papers issued by post was 108,139. This number does not include a number of larger ratepayers living outside the limits of the municipality, as the authorities were advised by counsel that only those residing within those limits had the right to vote. However that may be, it is clear that a very large number of those who had the right and the opportunity did not care to use them. Of the voting papers issued, 13,155 were returned either because the ratepayers could not be found or because the papers were refused, thus reducing the number of returned papers to 94,984. Of the papers returned, 5,501 were void for irregularity, or had been left blank. After allowing for all these, it will be found that, deducting the 52,701 papers which counted as votes, no less than 36,782 ratepayers did not vote at all. It is perhaps not unreasonable to assume that, at all events, most of these were rather indifferent than opposed to the adoption of the Act. On that view we have in the case of Glasgow another illustration of the lukewarmness and apathy which has in so many other places been as efficacious in defeating the movement for the adoption of the Acts as the most vigorous efforts of their declared opponents.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN 1884.

In May of last year Mr. Anderson moved in the House of Commons for a return "showing the names of all places in England, in Scotland, and in Ireland that have adopted the Public Libraries Acts," together with various other particulars showing the work done and the monies expended in the institutions thus established. This return has recently been presented and ordered to be printed. We understand that the method adopted by the Home Office to collect the information required for the return was to issue a circular to the Mayors of the places supposed to have adopted the Acts. Unfortunately the information at the command of the Home Office appears to have been inadequate, and the result has been that many places which have adopted the Acts are not recorded in the present return.

The last return on the subject of the Free Libraries was moved for by Mr. Dodds in 1874, and was issued in two instalments in 1876 and 1877. The number of places as to which information was supplied by that return was sixty-two. Since then no information has been officially published. But the elaborate report prepared by Messrs. Sutton and Campbell for our Manchester meeting in 1879, gave information as to eighty-four places, from which, however, should be deducted five places which had not adopted the Acts, the libraries included in the report being the result of benefactions. The list prepared by Mr. Lovell, and printed in his paper read at our Liverpool meeting in 1883, contained a much larger number of places, but did not sufficiently distinguish those places in which the Acts had been adopted. The present return contains a list of 115 places where the Acts have been adopted, but, as we shall presently show, is still very imperfect. The return is more conveniently arranged than that of 1877, but we are not sure that a simple alphabetical arrangement would not have been better than that actually employed of arranging the various places under the three kingdoms, and then under their respective counties within these kingdoms. This plan, indeed, enables us very easily to show the distribution of these places within the areas referred to. According to the return, the number of places which have adopted the Acts is: in England, 94; in Wales, 5; in Scotland, 9; and in Ireland, 7. The libraries in England are thus distributed amongst the counties:—Berks, 1; Cambridgeshire, 1; Cheshire, 6; Cumberland, 1; Derbyshire, 2; Devon, 4; Durham, 5; Gloucestershire, 2; Herefordshire, 1; Hertfordshire, 3; Kent, 4; Lancashire, 17; Leicestershire, 1; Middlesex, 3; Monmouthshire, 3; Norfolk, 1; Northamptonshire, 1; Northumberland, 2; Nottinghamshire, 2; Oxfordshire, 1; Salop, 1; Somerset, 1; Southampton (County of), 1; Staffordshire, 14; Suffolk, 1; Surrey, 3; Warwickshire, 5; Worcestershire, 2; and Yorkshire, 7.

In this list Ireland presents a better appearance than is justified by the facts, as Cork and Coleraine are included, though the former place has taken no steps to carry out the Acts, which it adopted so far back as 1855, while Coleraine has, at all events, been waiting since 1881 without taking any active steps. On the other hand the lists in the case of England and Scotland are defective. In the case of Scotland the return takes no account of Aberdeen, which adopted the Acts on March 25th of last year, and there are the less conspicuous omissions of Tarves and Thurso. The list of omissions in the case of England is still more serious, and is the more to be regretted as the Home Office authorities might easily have supplemented the return from the sources

above referred to, or from the article "Libraries" in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Some of the omissions are rather striking. We believe that all the following places should have been enumerated in the return:—Bootle, Darlaston, Hanley, Hucknall Torkard, Madeley, Oldham, Tipton, Warminster, Willenhall, Wimbledon, and Winchester. We do not include Truro, as the Acts have been adopted there since the return was presented; but there seems to be no excuse for the non-appearance of the fourteen other places we have mentioned. We may also point out in passing that in a public document we might reasonably expect to find the names of places from which information has been received correctly spelled; "St. Helen's" is not the proper spelling of the town of St. Helens.

Taking the towns represented in the return, and adding to them the towns which should have been also embraced by the return, we shall find that the number of places which have adopted the Acts (disregarding Cork for the reason suggested above) is 129. These 129 places had a population at the last census of 7,282,556. Of these places 21 are places of over 100,000 population; 24 of between 50,000 and 100,000; 21 of between 30,000 and 50,000; 17 of between 20,000 and 30,000; 33 of between 10,000 and 20,000; and 13 are places of below 10,000. In 1881 the late Prof. Stanley Jevons suggested[1] that "every town of more than 20,000 inhabitants should possess its rate-supported library," and drew up a list of such towns in England and Wales which were in default. The list numbered 49 places, counting, however, London as 1, which should rather count as many. Of these 49 places, the Acts have since been adopted in 13, thus leaving a list of 36 defaulters. But the results of the census of 1881 show that no less than 34 additional places must be added to the list, so that the list of places of over 20,000 inhabitants not yet possessing a rate-supported library would run as follows:—

Aberdare.	Gillingham.	Peterborough.
Accrington.	Gloucester.	Ramsgate.
Aldershot.	Gorton.	Rochester.
Alverstoke.	Gravesend.	Rowley Regis.
Bacup.	Great Grimsby.	St. George (Clifton).
Balsall Heath.	Hastings.	Scarborough.
Barton (Eccles, &c.).	Heston and Isleworth.	Southampton.
Bath.	Hornsey.	Stalybridge.
Batley.	Hove.	Todmorden.
Burnley.	Hull.	Torquay.
Burton-on-Trent.	Hyde.	Tottenham.
Bury.	Jarrow.	Wakefield.
Carlisle.	Keighley.	Wallasey.
Chatham.	Lancaster.	Walthamstow.
Colchester.	Leigh.	West Derby.
Coseley.	Leyton.	West Ham.
Crewe.	Lincoln.	West Hartlepool.
Croydon.	LONDON.	Widnes.
Dewsbury.	Lower Sedgley.	Willesden.
Dover.	Luton.	Yarmouth.
Eastbourne.	Merthyr Tydvil.	York, and
Edmonton.	Newton Heath.	Ystradyfodwg.
Farneworth.	North Bierley.	

No less than *ten* of these places, exclusive of London, have more than 50,000 inhabitants.

[1] In the *Contemporary Review* for March of that year.

It is more pleasant, however, to dwell upon the work done in those towns which have established libraries under the Acts. It must be remembered that the number 129 does not represent all the libraries at work in that number of places. There are branch libraries in connexion with many of them. No less than 25 of these places have amongst them 75 branch libraries and news rooms, and 9 news rooms without libraries. Again, 38 of them have museums, while several have attached to them valuable art galleries and science and art schools.

Not the least useful part of the information supplied in the return is that which shows the income and expenditure of the libraries which are already opened. This kind of information is not easy to gather, as many of the libraries do not include financial information in their annual reports. We have added up the incomes here reported, disregarding shillings and pence, and find that 107 places have an annual income of £127,248, which gives an average of £1,198. The largest income is that of the libraries at Liverpool, which have £12,761 at their command; but they are closely approached by Manchester with £11,100, while Birmingham is not far behind with £9,191. The smallest income here reported appears to be that at Sligo —£57, which is described, perhaps wrongly, as "donations," for if the entire income is derived from donations, what becomes of the rate? (We believe that Thurso, in Scotland, has a smaller income still, but Thurso is one of the places which do not figure in the present return.) The smallest income mentioned in England is that at Clitheroe, where the income is £86, but there are no less than seven other places where the libraries have to be supported on an income of less than £150 per annum. The question will sooner or later arise whether such places ought not to be assisted from imperial funds, as it must beall but impossible to carry on a library efficiently upon incomes so slender as this.

The return also supplies information as to the number of volumes contained in the libraries, classified under these heads of Reference Library, Lending Library, and Branches. In the case of Ireland the statistics under this head are very scanty, as most of the places which have adopted the Acts have not yet formed their book-collections. Of the 108 places in England and Scotland, 5 are in the same position, so that the return furnishes statistics of only 103 places, or, including Dundalk and Sligo, 105. The number of reference libraries in England and Scotland is 90, with 673,577 volumes, an average of 7,484 for each library. The largest reference libraries are at Liverpool, where there are 82,280 volumes—at Manchester, which has 75,997 volumes—and Birmingham, which has 70,000 volumes. In 99 places there are central lending libraries, with a stock of 889,608 volumes, making an average of 8,985 volumes per library. At Liverpool and Manchester there is no lending library at the central institution, but the lending branches are proportionately richer. At Maidstone and Ipswich and a few smaller places books do not appear to be lent out at all. In 18 places there are branch libraries with 345,398 volumes. The grand total of the volumes thus freely placed at the service of the public in all these libraries amounts to 1,908,583. The number of volumes to be added for Ireland is pitifully small—only 7,400; though it is true that this number does not include the books in the two libraries recently established by the Dublin Corporation, and takes no account of the important city of Belfast, where the library is in course of erection.

When we come to the statistics of the use made of these institutions, our arithmetic begins to fail us, and the task of adding up the long columns of figures becomes too

formidable. It would be the more difficult to do this satisfactorily, as there is a constant ambiguity in the tables, arising from the use of the terms of "readers" and "borrowers" sometimes to mean the number of persons on the registers, and sometimes the total number of separate visits or borrowings. There is the less reason to undertake the task, as our readers are familiar with the work done at the more important libraries, and our own pages are continually furnishing summaries of the reports issued by libraries both great and small.

The information presented by the return further includes the dates of opening of the libraries and their branches, and also of the opening of museums, and the number of visits paid to the latter. We find that 40 places have museums, while 2 more intend to have them and are making preparations for them.

There are some other points upon which we should have liked to have had information. It would have been convenient if the return had told us what places have secured the power to levy more than a penny rate, how the library committee is constituted, and perhaps the salaries paid to the librarians. Information on all these points, and many others, was supplied in the exhaustive report of 1879, to which we have already referred. Nevertheless we are glad to have the present return, and hope that in due time an annual return of this kind will be among the documents regularly submitted to Parliament.

THE PARIS MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES.[1]

We have received the annual report on the working of the municipal libraries of Paris, of which we gave some account in our first number.[2] Not only has the satisfactory condition of these institutions been fully maintained, but the present report supplies ample evidence that they are far from having attained the development of which they are capable. The number of these libraries, which was 24 at the end of 1883, had, at the end of 1884, reached 42, and will before the end of the present year have reached 46. The work of establishing fresh libraries will not be completed until, in accordance with the principle accepted by the Municipal Council, each of the other 34 quarters of the City has been supplied with its own library. The progress shown by the statistics of circulation is highly satisfactory, as will be seen from the following summary of the results attained since the re-establishment of the system of municipal libraries in 1878:—

There were in	1878	7	Libraries, circulating	...	28,938	vols.
„	1879	10	„	„ ...	57,840	„
„	1880	17	„	„ ...	147,567	„
„	1881	16	„	„ ...	234,372	„
„	1882	21	„	„ ...	363,322	„
„	1883	23	„	„ ...	514,287	„
„	1884	37	„	„ ...	665,792	„

[1] Note sur l'organisation et le fonctionnement des Bibliothèques Municipales de Paris: Paris, 1885. 4to., pp. 35.

[2] Vol. I. pp. 12-15.

Of the 699,762 volumes used in the last year, 117,046 were read at the libraries, while 582,716 were taken home. As a rule each library provides facilities for reading on the premises, but in nine of them books are at present only lent out in consequence of inadequate accommodation. Of the libraries open last year, 20 were located in the various *mairies*, while 17 were established in communal schools. The greater proportion of the books read consisted of fiction, but the proportion of more serious reading was at least as high as that in our own free public libraries. The relative proportions are shown in the following summary :—

Sciences and arts, education	65,016
History	58,766
Geography	64,579
Literature, poetry, and drama	84,576
Novels	400,631
Foreign languages	3,220
Music	22,974
	699,762

The report calls attention to a considerable increase in the use of works in foreign languages, and of music, which is now lent from 28 of the libraries. The number of volumes in stock at the end of the year was—

For use in the libraries	49,741
For home use	84,109
Making a total of	133,850

The increase upon the previous year was 29,025. It appears, therefore, that on an average each volume in the libraries has been used at least five times.

Not the least striking feature of the Paris system is the economy with which the work appears to be carried on. This may be gathered from the information here supplied as to the *personnel* of the libraries. In the case of the libraries of the *mairies*, the officers are drawn from the staff of the *mairies*, in that of the libraries at the communal schools, from the teachers of the schools. As a rule the library staff consists of a librarian, who receives 600 francs per annum, a sub-librarian, who has 400 francs, and an assistant with 300. In a few instances the salaries are higher, but nowhere exceed 1,000 and 500 francs as librarian and sub-librarian. The entire expense of the library service for the year 1885 is estimated at 66,600 francs, distributed amongst 154 persons. It must be remembered, of course, that the libraries are only open for two hours in the evening and two hours on Sunday morning.

The work done by these libraries seems very considerable as compared with the expense involved; and while the compiler of this report refers with honourable envy to the work done by the free public libraries of this country and America, it may be that we on this side of the Channel might take a lesson from our French neighbours in the art of "pursuing the study of the beautiful with economy."

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

At the June Monthly Meeting, which will be held on Friday, June 5th, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, a Paper will be read by Mr. J. R. Boosé, entitled "The Progress of Public Libraries in the Colonies."

MAY MONTHLY MEETING.

The May Monthly Meeting was held at the London Institution, on Friday, May 1st, at 8 p.m., the Treasurer, afterwards Mr. W. H. K. WRIGHT, in the Chair.

It was announced that the following noblemen and gentlemen had become Members of the Association:—Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgecumbe, Right Hon. the Earl of St. Germains, Mr. Alderman John Greenway, Ex-Mayor, and Member of the Free Library Committee, Plymouth; Mr. R. C. Serpell, J.P., Deputy-Chairman, Free Library Committee; Mr. Alderman John Shelly, Mr. W. H. Alger; Rev. F. E. Anthony, M.A., Messrs. C. F. Burnard, J.P., Isaac Latimer, J.P., J. H. S. May, Dr. John Merrifield, Messrs. Thomas Pitts, jun., R. C. Uglow and Rev. W. Whittley, all Members of the Free Library Committee; Mr. W. Square, President Plymouth Institution; Dr. F. Bampton, Hon. Librarian, Plymouth Medical Society, Mr. Jas. Loye, Hon. Librarian, Plymouth Law Society; Mr. Councillor A. Morrish, J.P., Plymouth; Dr. Robert Oxland, Member of Council, Plymouth Institution; Mr. J. Whitmarsh, Librarian, Plymouth Proprietary Library; and Mr. Richard Tangye, Member of the Free Libraries Committee, Birmingham.

Mr. A. Nicholson, Town Clerk of Oldham, having been duly proposed at the March meeting, was elected a Member.

The following gentlemen were proposed for election at the next meeting:—Rev. W. S. Lach-Szyrma, Newlyn, Penzance, and Mr. Silvanus Trevail, Truro.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. Henry Bradshaw to read a Paper on Early-printed Bibles." After a discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bradshaw for his Paper, and

The Meeting then adjourned.

The Examination of Library Assistants will be held on the First Tuesday in July. Further particulars will be sent to the Candidates as early as possible.

At the Special General Council, held on May 1st, communications were read from Messrs. R. R. Bowker and Melvil Dewey, with reference to a delegation of English librarians at this year's meeting of the American Library Association.

It was resolved on the motion of Mr. James Yates, seconded by the Hon. Sec., that the Council find it necessary, after making enquiries, to defer the consideration of the proposed visit until next year, which will be the tenth anniversary of the American Library Association.

It is expected that the Annual Meeting of our own Association will be held at Plymouth on September 15th and following days.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

BOURNEMOUTH.—A movement has been set on foot for the establishment of a Free Library and Museum in Bournemouth. Some letters have been addressed to the local papers on the subject by Dr. Martin Reed, and a private preliminary meeting was held on May 12th, at which the Rev. G. H. West presided. It was suggested that the difficulties presented by the scattered character of the district might be met by a number of local reading rooms (school-

rooms, if possible), which might be open in the evening, and supplied with newspapers, etc., and drawing supplies of books from the central library.

CARDIFF: FREE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM. —Col. Hill has offered a gift of pictures to the Committee, on condition that the Picture Gallery shall be opened on Sundays. At the April monthly meeting of the Committee it was decided to decline the offer.

DARWEN: FREE LIBRARY. — We are glad to learn that the Mayor of the Borough (Mr. Timothy Lightbown), has just given £100 to the Free Library, which the Commissioners have decided to lay aside as the nucleus of a fund for the erection of new library buildings.

EDINBURGH: PHILOSOPHICAL INSTITUTION.—Mr. Alexander Anderson, who has for four years been an Assistant Librarian at the University Library, has been appointed Secretary to this Institution.

EXETER: LITERARY INSTITUTE. — As President of the Exeter Literary Society, Sir Stafford Northcote, on April 7th, formally opened the new premises recently acquired by the Society, at a cost, including alteration and furnishing, of about £1,800.

GATESHEAD.—The new Building of the Public Library was opened on 25th February by Lord Northbourne, in the presence of the Mayor and Corporation, and the Mayors of neighbouring boroughs, and a distinguished company. After the opening ceremony a public Luncheon was provided. The Library is not yet stocked with books, but will be so shortly; the News and Reading Rooms only are open to the public, and are much used. The style of architecture is Romanesque. The façade consists of a massive base forming the ground storey, surmounted by a colonnade enriched with festooned pediments to form the attic storey. On either side of the façade are figures representing Art and Literature, and above the windows of the same are heads representative of the Arts and Sciences. There is a noble entrance consisting of a large arch enriched with Doric columns and entablature, the keystone of which is a finely carved head of Archimedes. Immediately over the entrance is a projecting window, the frieze of which is embellished with scrolls and an excellent carved likeness of Bewick, the wood engraver. On the basement there are three large rooms to be used as work and store rooms, Lavatory for public use, boiler room for heating by steam. On ground floor is a lofty entrance Loggia, 11 feet by 8 feet. The Vestibule, 10 feet by 10 feet, has a handsome painted glass screen, with spring doors. Hall and Staircase, 30 feet by 12 feet 6 inches. Ladies' Reading Room, 22 feet 6 inches by 18 feet 6 inches. Reading Room, 18 feet 6 inches by 31 feet, communicating with the Reference Book Department. News Room, 30 feet by 28 feet, fitted up with reading slopes, tables, &c. The construction of this room is of the most improved description, although limited in area, it is after the style of the ancient classic buildings with its screen wall surmounted by enriched foliated columns, two sides of the room above the screen wall being entirely open, the superstructure being supported by the columns, these spaces being filled with light ornamental frames, and lead lights behind the columns. The ceiling is formed of deep panels, the apparent ornament forming the exit for vitiated air. The Book Department (provided with Cotgreave's Indicator), consists of three storeys lighted at end and from roof, each storey being about 25 feet by 28 feet 6 inches, and an average height of 8 feet, light being admitted from the roof to the basement by open iron lattice floors, with lift and spiral staircase, on the American principle communicating with each storey. This department is fitted with five close ventilated smokeless gas lamps. The staircase communicating with the ground and first floor is spacious and well proportioned, the steps of which are fitted with a well formed wainscot handrail and ornamental iron balusters. On the first floor is the Picture Gallery, 30 feet by 11 feet, lighted from the ceiling: opening from the gallery is a room 40 feet by 20 feet, with entrance and exit doors, proposed to be used for Art Classes; another room 30 feet by 28 feet, lighted from the roof, intended for use as a Museum. At the end of the passage is a lobby opening into Lavatory with other conveniences for Students. The upper part of the front portion of Building is fitted up as a suite of rooms for the attendant. The architect for the building was the late Mr. John Johnstone of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

GLASGOW.—The result of the poll taken upon the question of adopting the Free Libraries Acts was declared on May 9th, when it was announced that there was a majority of 7,191 against their adoption. The figures were for the adoption, 22,755; against 29,946. We refer to the subject elsewhere in this number.

HUDDERSFIELD.—On April 11th, Mr. Joseph Crosland, J.P., of Huddersfield, who recently offered to give £5,000 towards a free library for Huddersfield, but whose offer was, after long consideration, rejected by the Town Council, presided at a meeting at Queen Street Assembly Rooms, Huddersfield, on the occasion of a lecture on "Free Libraries" by Mr. Harold Harley, B.A., Huddersfield, and in the course of his opening speech he said he heartily approved of the free library system, and a little while ago he tried to do something towards the establishment of a free library for the town. From one cause or another it had been obliged to be given up, but at the same time he hoped, and he was sure they hoped, that the matter would again be revived, because a library was very much needed in Huddersfield. Sir John Ramsden offered to give, rent-free, a suite of rooms for ten years for the accommodation of the Library, but this offer was of course also declined.

LEEDS: PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—We regret to say that the proposition mentioned in our last number as being about to be submitted to the Town Council for the increase of Mr. Yates's salary, was not carried. Mr. Kirby's salary was increased by a narrow majority of one. The *Leeds Mercury* observes:—

"The Leeds Public Library is, by general consent, a credit to the town. That it is so is due mainly to the efforts of the Chief Librarian, Mr. YATES, who has performed the duties of his post with a zeal and intelligence to which thousands of the people of Leeds can bear witness. The work of the office which he holds is constantly increasing, as is also the burden of responsibility which he has to bear. In many important departments connected with the library new duties of the most onerous kind have been thrown upon him; and so far as we know he has performed these duties in a manner which has given general satisfaction. His salary for many years was miserably inadequate, being no more than £200. Five years ago it was increased to £250, a sum which certainly did not err, even then, upon the side of liberality. Since 1880, the work of Mr. YATES, as we have said, has greatly increased, and the Library Committee, at the meeting of the Council yesterday, recommended that his salary be increased by £25 yearly. It will hardly be believed that the Council, on the plea of 'economy,' refused to grant this small addition to the income of a deserving and underpaid official. The same gentlemen have—also, we presume, in the interests of economy—sanctioned the expenditure of nearly one hundred thousand pounds of the ratepayers' money upon the building in which the Public Library is housed, and every person who visits the strikingly handsome apartments over which Mr. YATES presides, will be able to estimate the precise value of the plea on which a majority of the Council yesterday refused to increase his stipend. It is needless to say that Mr. ALDERMAN SCARR was in the forefront in objecting to the proposal of the Library Committee. Mr. ALDERMAN SCARR considers that the Librarian leads 'a gentleman's life'—which, with equal politeness and truthfulness, he defines as 'being well paid for doing nothing—and that £200 a year is quite enough for him.' The ratepayers will, however, we trust, remember at the next election that there are certain of their representatives who believe that true economy consists in squandering thousands of pounds upon the mere ornamentation of the internal fittings of a public building, whilst paying starvation salaries to the deserving officials who have to perform their arduous and responsible duties in these palatial edifices."

LIVERPOOL: FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—Mr. Cowell writes to the *Athenæum* in regard to the electric lighting, introduced four years ago, into the Picton Reading Room:—"So satisfied were the Committee of this Library of its value that, 18 months ago, they had it also extended to the principal book-room of the Brown Library, and we are now having it further extended to our Rotunda Lecture Hall, the Brown Reading Room, and several other parts of this Library. There is no difference of opinion among the staff here as to the comfort and healthiness of electricity compared with gas, and the steady temperature it preserves must prove in time greatly to the advantage of the bindings of our books."

LONDON: BRABY & CO.'S LIBRARY AND CLUB.—The Annual Meeting of the Library and Club was held at Deptford on Saturday, May 9th, Mr. Frederick Braby in the Chair. The Annual Report was read by Mr. G. R. Humphery, the Hon. Secretary and Librarian. Mr. Robert Har-

rison was present, and delivered an address during the evening. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Humphery for his services.

LONDON: NOTTING HILL FREE LIBRARY. —This Library has recently been presented with the Library of scientific books belonging to the lately-dissolved West London Scientific Association.

LONDON: LAMBETH PALACE LIBRARY. —The Librarian, Mr. Kershaw, writes to us:—"I should be obliged if you will kindly insert a note in your next *Chronicle* that this Library is open daily (Saturday excepted), and that modern books are lent out under certain rules."

LONDON: SION COLLEGE.—The memorial stone of the New Hall and Library on the Victoria Embankment was laid on April 21st, by the President, the Rev. A. Povah. The building is of the Gothic style, and is to cost about £25,000.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—At the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Libraries, on Friday evening, March 20th, the Librarian, Mr. W. J. Haggerston, was presented with a handsome silver cruet-stand by the Library staff, as a token of their esteem, on the occasion of his recent marriage.

NOTTINGHAM: FREE LIBRARIES.—On March 26th, a Public Reading Room was opened at Old Basford, in the iron building in Southwark Street, formerly occupied by a chapel and school room, by Mr. Councillor Horner.

OXFORD: BODLEIAN LIBRARY. — "A Non-Resident M.A." communicates to the *Athenæum* (March 28th) a plan for uniting the Bodleian and Radcliffe Libraries by a gallery, in such a way as not only not to injure the architectural effect of these structures, but even in a way to improve the general effect.

OXFORD: INDIAN INSTITUTE. — The Library and Museum of this Institute were formally opened by a conversazione on April 22nd, when speeches were delivered by the Marquis of Ripon, Prof. Monier Williams and others. The library is already richly endowed with the valuable Oriental books collected and presented by the Rev. Dr. Malan, as well as with works on cognate subjects which have been given by the India Office and private donors. The Museum is well stocked with a good representative collection of the religious and industrial phases of Indian life, as well as with a unique collection of musical instruments, all of which have been given by the munificence of private benefactors, or by the liberality of municipalities and local governments of India.

SALFORD. — One of our life-members, Mr. W. T. Glover, has been elected a Member of the Salford School Board without a contest.

SWANSEA: PUBLIC LIBRARY.—At a special meeting of the Committee, held on May 9th, to consider the offer recently made by Col. Hill to the Cardiff Free Library and Museum Committee (*see* CARDIFF *ante*), Mr. Daniel Jones moved that the Librarian be instructed to write to Col. Hill, asking him to give the Committee the refusal of the works of art declined by the Cardiff Committee, but the motion was not carried.

TRURO.—At a crowded meeting of the ratepayers, held on May 7th, it was decided by a majority to adopt the Libraries Acts. Truro thus becomes entitled to a bonus of £20. offered by some Cornish Plymouthians, through Mr. Silvanus Trevail, in a letter to the *Western Morning News* of April 30th, to the first town in Cornwall which should adopt the Acts.

The arrangements for the Plymouth meeting are actively proceeding. Meetings were held on April 7th and 29th under the presidency of the Mayor. A committee was appointed, consisting of the Mayors and the Library Committees of Plymouth and Devonport, together with other gentlemen, for the purpose of making arrangements for welcoming the Association to Plymouth. Mr. J. Shelley has been appointed hon. treasurer, and Mr. W. H. K. Wright hon. sec., of the Committee. We are sure that it will be a great convenience if Mr. Wright can be informed as early as possible whether it is the intention of members to attend the Meeting, which bids fair to be as successful as any previous gathering.

FOREIGN.

Europe.

ATHENS.—Mr. P. Valliános, a wealthy Greek gentleman, resident in England, has offered £40,000 for the erection of a separate building for the National Library at Athens. The building is to be commenced at once.

LYONS.—A Committee of Investigation appointed to inquire into the disappearance of manuscripts from the Bibliothèque de la Ville as well as the mutilation of others has printed a report, which shows the risks to which a library may be exposed even in a large town. It appears that the former librarian exchanged a number of "old manuscripts of no value, and of incunabula that no one read" for one of the two sets of the Firmin-Didot *Classiques Français* printed on vellum. This was in 1855, and since then a number of manuscripts and books professing to have belonged to the library have appeared from time to time in sale-catalogues, and have brought considerable prices. Some of them were found by M. Delisle in London, and some have appeared in Didot's catalogues so late as 1883, when one of them was sold to Mr. Quaritch. As a result of the enquiries which have now been made, the number of MSS. in the library appears to have been reduced from 1,335 to 1,250. But besides a vast number of books and MSS. were found to have been mutilated for the purpose of insertion into a "Grangerized" copy of one of the late librarian's own books. Some of the missing fragments can thus be restored, but much has been irreparably lost.

PARIS.—In a report on the Bibliothèque de l'Hotel de Ville, M. Jules Cousin has reviewed its history from its re-establishment in 1871. The Library now contains 70,000 vols. and 50,000 engravings, and it is estimated that since 1871 a sum of about 1,200,000 francs has been expended upon the library, besides which gifts have been received to the value of 260,000 francs.

PARIS.—It is announced that in future the Bibliothèque Nationale is to be open during the period from May 1st to 15th September until 6 p.m. instead of 4 p.m. as hitherto.

ROME.—The Minister of Public Instruction has offered a number of prizes in bibliography and librarianship, varying from l.1,000 to l.3,000. The competition is open to all Italian citizens, and the prizes will be awarded at the end of 1885.

United States.

BOSTON.—In the recent competition twenty plans were sent in for a new building for the Public Library. Four prizes have been awarded, but the Committee express the opinion that no one of these plans met the requirements of the proposed structure. The whole subject awaits the action of the City Council.

MINNEAPOLIS.—This city has just passed a library law which, according to the *Library Journal*, "is a distinct advance upon all previous city-library organisations." It establishes a Board of Management separate from the other branches of the city government, and intended to protect the library from politics and corruption. The tax is limited to one-half-mile per dollar, which will give an income of nearly $40,000, to be increased under a new valuation to nearly $60,000 the next year, and it is hoped to raise $50,000 by subscription towards the cost of a building. The text of the law is reprinted in the *Library Journal* for April.

NEW YORK.—Mr. Stephen B. Noyes, the librarian of the Brooklyn Library, and the compiler of its well-known catalogue, died on March 7th, after a long illness. He was born in 1834, and after graduating at Harvard, where his father was a professor, he served his library apprenticeship for a year in the Boston Athenæum, from which he went to Brooklyn. There he saw the library grow from 3,000 volumes to 83,000. The last report of the library just issued, in referring to his death, observes "Mr. Noyes possessed a wonderful knowledge of books—not merely a bibliographical acquaintance with them, but a real knowledge of their contents; and this knowledge was always entirely and freely at the service of every seeker after literary information. In twenty-five years of his residence here he has been in this way a great educational force in the community, and his loss will be severely felt."

SAN FRANCISCO.—Mr. Adolph Sutro intends to establish a Free Public Library in San Francisco, and to present it to the public. He has already collected some 60,000 volumes, and proposes to erect a handsome building, which shall also be a model of convenience for library purposes. The Library is intended to be chiefly for students and scholars, and his collections have been made with this object in view, and special attention has been paid to Oriental literature.

Mr. Melvil Dewey writes in the *Library Journal* for April on "The A. L. A. Catalogue," and Mr. C. A. Cutter and J. N. Larned contribute "Two Classifications of Philosophy." With this number is issued the first quarterly instalment of the "Co-operative Index to Current Periodicals."

A third number of the French *Bulletin des Bibliothèques et des Archives* has been issued, completing the volume for 1884, and containing a great mass of valuable information. In particular we may mention a long report on the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal, followed by a list of the periodicals in this library extending to over sixty pages.

The April issue of the *Sunday Review* is almost entirely devoted to the question of the Sunday opening of Libraries, Museums, and Picture Galleries. A full report is furnished of the conference held at St. James's Hall on March 25th, with authorities and officers of such institutions, when statements were submitted as to the Sunday opening of the Free Public Libraries at Birmingham, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wigan, and of the Stockport Museum, and as to the experiments at Chester, Maidstone, and Worcester, which have again been closed.

The April number of the *Centralblatt* contains a long account by O. Grulich of the history and present state of the Library of the Kaiserlich Leopoldinisch-Carolinisch-Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher, as its name indicates, a scientific library now situated at Halle. The May number contains articles on a collection of Spanish romances in the Royal Library at Copenhagen, on the Maya collection at Dresden, and on the Budget of the British Museum and the National Library of Ireland.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

London. The Library and Club (Messrs. F. Braby & Co.), 1885. Sm. 8vo., pp. 80. cl. g.e.

A neatly printed and handy little catalogue. We cannot say, however, that we like the plan of putting titles before author's names, and the less so because there is no index of the latter.

Nottingham Free Public Libraries. Catalogue of the Central Lending Library, Nottingham, 1885. La. 8vo., pp. 252.

A catalogue upon the dictionary system, printed in a small but clear type, and in double columns. The contents of periodical and collectaneous literature are set out, and in the cases of Dumas and Scott the cataloguer has supplied useful information as to the relations of the novels to each other and the periods illustrated in the case of the historical novels of the latter. The paper wrapper is hardly calculated to stand much wear and tear.

Borough of Birmingham. The Twenty-second and Twenty-third Annual Reports of the Free Libraries Committee, on the years 1883 and 1884. Birmingham, 1885, 8vo, pp. 58.

The most important event of the year 1883 was the passing of the "Birmingham Corporation Consolidated Act" of that year, by section 87 of which the limitation of the Libraries Rate to a penny in the pound is removed. This increased rating power was necessary for the maintenance of the new Museum and Art Gallery, and of the new School of Art (both of which are now rapidly approaching completion), as well as for the purposes of the Free Libraries. The rate for the year 1884 was 1·23d. in the £, and the estimate for the year 1885 1·79d. in the £, which includes £2,600 for the School of Art and Art Gallery. The number of books in the Reference Library has increased from 50,000 in 1882 to 73,600, and in the Lending Library from 48,900 in 1882 to 54,090. The issues in the Reference Library in 1883 were 294,190; in 1884, 311,366: from the Lending Library (including four branches), in 1883, 439,770; in 1884, 473,395. The entire number of volumes in all the libraries is 127,698, and the aggregate issues from all the collections in 1884 was 784,761, of which 31,080 were issued in the Reference Library on Sundays. The receipts for 1884 were £9,010 16s. 6d., including £8,287 18s. 8d. from the rate, and the expenditure amounted to £11,202 5s., the difference being met by the transfer of a sum from the fund subscribed after the recent fire to replace the Reference Library.

Ealing. Second Annual Report of the Free Library Committee, 1884-5. Ealing. 8vo, pp. 14.

The number of volumes in the Reference Library is 748, in the Lending Library 3,327; total, 4,075. The issues in the lending department have been 75,863. The number of borrowers is 2,800. On the last page is a comparative table giving the proportionate issue of books to each inhabitant in some fifty towns, showing that Ealing has the highest, 4·8, Richmond coming next with 4·5. The balance-sheet shows that the total receipts were £533 18s. 2d., the rate producing £427 11s. 10d., and fines £43 11s. 5d.—and the expenditure £475 16s. 1d.

Glasgow. Report of the Mitchell Library, 1884. Glasgow, 1885. 8vo, pp. 47.

The number of volumes in the library is 55,496, being an increase of 3,914 upon the previous year. The total issue of books was 435,142, a number largely in excess of any previous year. No count is made of the current periodicals read, but it is estimated that the total number of separate readings in the library was over three-quarters of a million, —a daily average of about 2,500. The financial statement shows that the income was £2,636 7s. 1d., and the expenditure £2,841 19s. 9d. The Librarian renews his complaint of the inadequate accommodation which interferes with the work of the library. There is a separate report on the "Poets' Corner," which, at the end of the year, contained nearly 5,000 volumes, representing about 2,000 authors.

Liverpool. Thirty-second Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library, Museum, and Walker Art Gallery of the City of Liverpool. Liverpool, 1885. 8vo, pp. 32.

The number of volumes issued from the Reference Library was 1,017,486, as compared with 802,516 in the previous year. The number of volumes in the Lending Libraries was 44,775, as against 45,357 the previous year, 1,716 volumes having been withdrawn and 1,209 replaced. The number of volumes in the library is now 82,874, an increase of 2,950.

London. The Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Bank of England Library and Literary Association, 1885. London, 1885. 8vo, pp. 14.

During the year 41,046 books have been circulated, as compared with 41,345 the year before. The stock now amounts to 17,000 volumes. The number of members is 504, an increase of 5. The financial statement shows that the receipts were £267 6s. 2d., and the expenditure £288 7s. 9d.

London. Library and Club (Messrs. F. Braby & Co., Limited). Fifteenth Annual Report, 1884-5. London, 1885. 8vo, pp. 24.

During the year 220 volumes were added to the library, the present stock standing at 2,070. The issue of volumes for home reading continues to progress satisfactorily, 1,773 vols. having been lent—the largest annual issue in the history of the library. The report contains full particulars of the various departments of this excellent institution.

Borough of Wigan. Free Public Library. Seventh Annual Report of the Librarian. February, 1885. Wigan, 1885. 8vo, pp. 20.

Mr. Folkard reports that 12,056 books in the Reference Library have been consulted, as compared with 11,838 the previous year. In the Lending Library 56,885 volumes have been issued, compared with 57,046 the previous year. The total number of volumes is 28,412, as against 26,850 the previous year. The Free Lectures on Saturday evenings have been continued with success. The Report is followed by a list of the principal additions to the Reference Library during the year.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

The Reference Catalogue of Current Literature, containing the full titles of books now in print and on sale . . . . and an Index containing upwards of fifty-three thousand references. London: Joseph Whitaker.

This new issue of the Reference Catalogue, which has long been indispensable to every bookseller and librarian, contains the lists of 128 publishers. The index seems to be very carefully done. The bulk of the volume seems to become more and more formidable.

A Catalogue of the English Books printed before MDCI, now in the Library of Trinity College, Cambridge. By Robert Sinker, B.D., Librarian, and formerly Chaplain. Cambridge: Deighton, Bell & Co., 1885, 8vo., pp. xvi., 488.

This is a companion volume to the catalogue of 15th Century books in the same collection, published by Mr. Sinker in 1876. To the word "English" is given a wider meaning than in the British Museum Catalogue, spoken of elsewhere in this number. Here it includes all books, in whatsoever language, printed not only in England and Scotland, but also abroad, which have a distinct connexion with the English Church, history or literature. As in the former volume the arrangement is chronological, under towns and printers. The titles and collation are given with that elaborate precision which has already distinguished Mr. Sinker's bibliographical work. References are supplied to descriptions of other authorities. Long original notes are added to almost every title. Many of these are of great interest, as for instance the one pointing out that there were three editions of Lyley's *Euphues* (1579), that on Bacon's *Essayes* (1557), on *Thucydides* (1550), etc. Bibliographers should mark that the copy of Maunsell's *Catalogue of English printed bookes*" (1595) is "interleaved, and contains a large number of MS. notes in a contemporary hand. The 1107 works in the catalogue include five Caxtons, the remarkable Shakespeare quartos (some unique) of Mr. Capell, and the early English books bequeathed by the Rev. W. Grylls. The Cambridge-printed books number 30, and the Oxford books 12. There are a quantity of extremely rare pieces, such as the unique fragment of *Generydes* (c. 1520-5) Sir Philip Sydney's *Astrophel and Stella* (1591), of which the Grenville is the only other copy known, and Shakespeare's *Passionate Pilgrims* (1599), of which Sir C. Isham's copy is the only other known. Separate indexes of printers, books, and donors are appended. Mr. Sinker deserves the highest praise for the minute accuracy and thoroughness of this catalogue, which is equally creditable to Trinity College and to its accomplished librarian.

Bookbinding for Amateurs: being descriptions of the various tools and appliances required, and minute instructions for their effective use. By W. J. E. Crane. Illustrated with 156 engravings. London: L. Upcott Gill, 1885. sm. 8vo., pp. vi., 184.

Although librarians are usually expected to know how to read and to catalogue the books under their charge, the test of their necessary qualifications does not yet include being able to produce them, to write, to print, or to bind them. Some slight acquaintance, however, with the last two accomplishments will always be found useful in a library, and this little volume gives in a concise and readable form, the chief processes of binding a book. It commences with an account (including cost) of tools, appliances and materials. These, by the way, are upon rather a more liberal scale than most amateurs would care to begin with. We are then taken successively through the operations of folding, placing plates, sawing and sewing, fixing end-papers, rounding and backing, getting into boards, cutting and bevelling them, colouring and gilding edges, marbling, putting in headbands and registers, lining the back, covering, marbling and colouring leather, and finishing. A chapter on mending old books, washing and cleaning, would have been a useful addition. Mr. Crane informs us that hogskin "should never be used as it engenders mildew and mould in other bindings placed near it." This can surely never happen if the skin be properly prepared.

Some of the advantages of easily accessible Reading and Recreation Rooms and Free Libraries, with remarks on starting and maintaining them, and suggestions for the selection of books. By Lady John Manners. Blackwood & Sons: Edinburgh and London, 8vo., pp. viii. 93. Price One Shilling.

A pleasantly written series of papers, reprinted from the *Queen*, and dedicated to Her Majesty. We shall probably have something to say of them in another number.

We have received from Mr. F. T. Barrett an account of the Mitchell Library, drawn up for the writer's friend, Mr. Thomas Mason, as a contribution to his work on "Public and Private Libraries of Glasgow." A few copies have been separately printed under the title of the "Mitchell Library, Glasgow, from 1874 to 1884," making a handsome octavo pamphlet of about eighty pages. Mr. Barrett observes that "the history of the Library during its as yet brief existence is, we believe, without precedent, whether regard be had to the number and value of the books acquired, or to the benefit derived from them by those in whose interest it was founded," and we may add that Mr. Barrett's attempt is worthy the history of the Library.

At a special meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, held on April 14th in the Reading Room of Chetham's Hospital, Manchester, Mr. H. H. Howorth in the chair, papers were read by Mr. E. C. Thomas on "The Manuscripts

of Richard de Bury's Philobiblon;" and by Mr. J. E. Bailey, on "Some MSS. of Lawrence Vaux, once Warden of Manchester" These MSS. were then presented by Mr. Bailey to the Chairman as a gift from the Society to the Chetham Library. Mr. Howorth expressed the satisfaction with which the feoffees would accept them, and in the course of the evening exhibited some of the books recently purchased for the Library.

"Russian Central Asia," by Henry Lansdell, D.D., (Sampson Low & Marston.), by much the fullest English work on the subject of which it treats, contains among other valuable matter an exhaustive bibliography of books, maps, and articles in reviews, or academical transactions relating to Central Asia. There are altogether seven hundred and two entries, a large proportion being of books or memoirs in Russian, the very titles of which have hitherto been unknown to the English reader. One important result should be the encouragement of the study of Russian in this country.

It is proposed, if sufficient subscribers can be obtained, to reproduce by photo-lithography what the prospectus calls the "Gutenberg, or as it is sometimes called, the Mazarin Bible," though we thought it was now agreed by the most competent experts that Gutenberg had nothing to do with it. The copy to be reproduced will be Lord Crawford's, and it will be edited by our friend Mr. W. E. A. Axon. The price will be Ten Guineas for the two volumes folio, and the issue will be strictly limited to the subscribers, who should address Mr. J. E. Cornish, 33, Piccadilly, Manchester.

Mr. W. R. Credland has contributed to the *Manchester Quarterly* for April an interesting paper on "The Work of the Spenser Society." In the seventeen years of its existence the Society has issued thirty-seven volumes, which, according to Mr. Credland, "form a collection highly creditable to Manchester enterprise, taste and cultivation."

Mr. Dobell announces that he will shortly issue an annotated catalogue of a collection of privately printed books, all of which are in his possession.

We have received the first of the "Birmingham Reference Library Lectures," being a discourse upon "Books on Law and Jurisprudence," by the Chairman of the Free Libraries Committee, Mr. Councillor G. J. Johnson. The experiment of Lectures designed to interest the people in the unexplored treasures of the Library, and to serve as a guide to them, is an excellent one, and as a practical lawyer Mr. Councillor Johnson speaks of law books with authority. We have read the pamphlet with much interest. In some particulars the bibliographical detail would bear a little revision. Thus, for example, on p. 13 it is stated that there is "a very handy edition" of Bentham's "Principles of Morals and Legislation," by J. Hildreth. There is a handy edition of Bentham's book published by the Clarendon Press; but the book issued by J. Hildreth is a translation of the Theory of Legislation, written by Bentham's disciple and expositor Dumont. When the lecturer states (p. 24) that the only attempt to continue the State Trials is that by Townsend, he has overlooked Mr. Lathom Browne's book, issued in 1882. We have noticed several inaccuracies, clearly due to the printer, such as Hazl*e*tt for Hazl*i*tt, and Ha*l*grave for Ha*r*grave.

Notes and Queries.

AUTHORSHIP. In reply to J. O.'s query in No. 1 of the *Library Chronicle* [March, 1884] p. 32: Mr. Wilfred Meynell, editor of *Merry England*, is "John Oldcastle," the author of "Journals and Journalism," 1880.

CARL A. THIMM.

EDITORIAL NOTICE.

During the present summer it is proposed to issue a Double Number of the *Chronicle* in alternate months. With the present number is issued to members Sheet H of the Liverpool Transactions, for the long delay in issuing which the Editor feels obliged to explain that he is not responsible. It is hoped to issue the whole of the remaining sheets with the next number of the *Chronicle*.

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The Library Chronicle.

THE PROGRESS OF COLONIAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

By James R. Boosé.

"BEFORE a subject can be improved it must be known." As there is at present no publication in the English language giving us the multifarious scraps of intelligence as to the progress or present state of the Public Libraries of our Colonies drawn into one view, the above words used by an old writer apply appropriately to my subject. Scattered over the whole world as our Colonies are, a vast number of valuable particulars on the subject are to be found distributed through numerous volumes, and I have therefore endeavoured to combine them as far as practicable so as to lay before you the best account of them which the space and time placed at my disposal will allow.

I take it to be one of the principal objects of the Association to obtain and communicate information on all questions relating to Library Administration and Bibliography not only in the United Kingdom but in our Colonies generally, which are getting better known and more appreciated year by year. It is therefore a matter of much gratification to me to be the first to bring before the Association such a subject as that which I have chosen, uniting as it does all our Colonies under one head in the common cause of providing Institutions of essential importance for the promotion of civilization, and for the benefit of their separate communities.

The Dominion of Canada claims our earliest attention as being the first colony to establish Libraries. As far back as the year 1779 there was a public circulating library at Quebec containing about 2,000 volumes. This library was maintained until a few years ago, when its books were transferred to the Literary and Historical Society of that city. This is the first instance I have been able to trace of the existence of a Public Library in Canada. From an old Magazine published in 1824 it is found that there were some libraries in the large towns of Quebec, Montreal, York, Kingston and Halifax, but I cannot gain any information as to their extent, or what has become of their collections of works—with one exception, however, that of Montreal, which as far back as 1823 had a Public Library of 8,000 volumes containing many valuable works and "well supplied with new books." This collection has doubtless been distributed amongst the more recently established Societies which exist at the present day.

[1] Read at the June Monthly Meeting of the Library Association.

There are few Public Libraries in Canada, though attention is now being generally directed to the necessity of establishing them in centres of population. Already the agitation has had a very satisfactory result in Ontario. In the Session of 1882 the Ontario Legislature passed an Act (45 Vict. c. 22) "To provide for the Establishment of Free Libraries" in that Province. According to this Act a petition may be presented by not less than 100 electors in cities, and from 10 to 30 in other municipalities, praying the Council to take measures set forth in the Act to establish a Free Library. For the purpose of providing for the expenses necessary for carrying out the Act a municipal assessment is made annually upon all rateable real and personal property, not exceeding one half of a mill on the dollar. Free Library Debentures may be issued by the Council on the requisition of the Board of Management in order to purchase and erect the necessary buildings, and obtain books and other things required. Since the passage of this Act a good Free Library has been established in Toronto with 20,000 volumes, and was opened in the year 1883. The number of volumes at present is about 45,000. There is no doubt that the collection of works will rapidly increase, and prove of immense value to the citizens, as well as providing intellectual amusement to thousands of the working classes. Such an effort as this will do much to promote and stimulate the progress of education, not only in Toronto, but throughout the province of Ontario. There is also a small Free Public Library at Guelph, in the province of Ontario, containing about 5,000 volumes, which was opened in February, 1883. Montreal at present has no Public Library, though a movement is now on foot in that city to provide such an Institution. At the recent meeting of the British Association at Montreal a proposal was brought forward by Sir Richard Temple, and seconded by Professor Boyd Dawkins and Sir William Thomson, for the foundation of a Public Free Library, towards which a munificent anonymous donation was announced, but Sir Henry Lefroy in a Paper on the British Association in Canada, read before the Royal Colonial Institute, states, "there are difficulties of a social nature growing out of the municipal constitution of the city not likely to be soon overcome, but the weighty advocacy of these distinguished persons cannot but have strengthened the movement." In referring to the necessity for a Public Library in Montreal the following paragraph appears in the Handbook for the Dominion of Canada: "A Student in Roman Catholic Theology and kindred subjects can find all he requires. In Protestant Theology the Presbyterian College (consisting of 10,000 volumes) affords very good material. In Civil Law the Advocates' Library (15,000 volumes) is a useful one. In some departments the McGill Library (25,000 volumes) is pretty full, but if any one in Montreal wishes to carry on researches requiring general works of reference he must go to some other city. The Government publishes many useful documents for the information of Parliament, but in Montreal it is nobody's business to keep them. There is not a set accessible for reference. Thousands of copies are scattered broadcast among people who use them for waste paper. It requires a distressing amount of labour to carry on the most ordinary inquiries in history, politics, sociology, art or general literature."

In Halifax, Nova Scotia, there is a small Free Library which owes its existence in the first instance to donations of books from public spirited citizens such as Sir William Young the late Chief Justice, and others.

The Legislative Library of New Brunswick contains about 15,000 volumes, and forms a circulating library for the use of the citizens generally.

The chief library, and also that which is worthy of much notice, in the Dominion is the Library of the Parliament of Canada. It may therefore be of interest to trace its progress since the Union of Upper and Lower Canada. At the time of the Union in 1841 the libraries of each of the Provinces were thrown into one, and formed about 6,000 volumes. During the next eight years the central library had increased by purchase and gifts to 25,000, when on the 25th April, 1849, it was destroyed by fire—only about 200 volumes being saved. It was reconstituted at Quebec and in 1853 the number of books was 17,000, but on the 1st February, 1854, it was for the second time destroyed by fire—8,000 volumes then being saved. It was then again reconstituted, and on the removal of the Seat of Government to Ottawa, the present chief city, the library contained about 55,000 volumes. The Library building, then in course of construction, not being ready to receive the library a temporary building was fitted up for its use, where it remained until 1876 when it was removed to its present magnificent home. Mr. J. G. Bourinot in referring to this building remarks "It was certainly an event in the history of literary culture in Canada when this library was moved into the edifice whose architectural beauty is in itself an illustration of the rapid advance in taste of the Dominion. But whilst we pay a tribute to its architectural grace, one wonders at the same time at the shortsightedness which has sacrified everything to appearance, and given us a building not even equal to existing demands, as if a library was a thing of the present, not to increase with the intellectual requirements of the country." The Library of Parliament, also termed the National Library, contains at the present time about 108,000 volumes. Citizens can get books by obtaining tickets from the Speakers of the two Houses, so that the restrictions on the public are not such as to preclude any one from the privilege, and therefore I am led to class this as a Public Library.

The absence of Free Libraries in Canada contrasts strongly with their neighbour the United States, as is shown in the following extract from an article in *Scribner's Monthly* for September, 1880, which states very tersely the advantages of a free Library. After commenting upon the question generally, it states "Boston twenty years ago spent, and spent well, in founding her great free Library, more than two dollars for each man, woman and child within her limits, and she has sustained it to this day with great spirit and liberality. That Library has now more than 360,000 volumes, and her citizens in 1879 took to their homes more than 1,160,000 volumes. Many smaller places in New England and elsewhere, not without careful investigation, have followed her example, finding in the practical results of her twenty years work proof, satisfactory to their taxpayers, that a free library is a profitable investment of public money; while in the West the great cities of Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis with Western free-handed energy, have already free libraries on such a scale that one at least of them bids fair to rank among the greatest in the world."

Time will not allow me to go into details with regard to the provincial Parliamentary Libraries, and as my object is to deal exclusively with Public Libraries, I must refrain from touching upon the Literary and Scientific Institutions which are annually increasing in number, and which all possess Libraries, some of which are most valuable, but at the same time none of them are Public Libraries in the real sense of the word. It may however be of interest to briefly estimate from the information within reach the grand total of volumes contained in these Institutions. In the Parliamentary Libraries of the Dominion there are some 140,000 volumes. In the Universities, Colleges and

Schools there are about 750,000, all of which are of a limited professional class, and in the Mechanics' Institutes and Literary Societies about 150,000.

One word more before closing this account of the Canadian Public Libraries with regard to Lending Libraries. Books should be allowed to be taken out of these Institutions for reading at home, and they should be of such a nature as not only to be useful but so as to excite an actual interest in those for whose perusal they are intended. Institutions of this kind are required not only as a means of education but in order to supply mental and moral food to those minds whose powers have been developed and brought into play, and by which they may be taught how to use the faculties they possess." "There is no more patriotic purpose to which the surplus wealth of the rich men of the Dominion of Canada can be devoted than the establishment of Public Libraries in the places where they live, and in that way erect a monument for themselves far more honourable than any that may be achieved by expenditures on purely selfish objects."[1]

Turning now to our Australasian Colonies a totally different state of affairs exists. Whilst in Canada the Public Libraries can be counted on the fingers of one hand, here they are to be counted by the hundred.

The establishment of Public Libraries in these Colonies dates only from the second decade of the present century, and is, therefore, perhaps, within the memory of many gentlemen present; so rapid has been the development of these Colonies, and so vast the growth of their still young institutions, that it becomes difficult to narrate the progress each have made since their foundations, in a paper of limited length.

Victoria.

In dealing first with the Colony of Victoria, although not the oldest, the Melbourne Public Library stands out prominently as the largest and most important Library in Australasia. A piece of land having been dedicated to the public as a site for the building, containing nearly two acres, the foundation stone was laid on the 3rd July, 1854, by His Excellency Sir Charles Hotham. During the first fifteen years of its existence, the management was conducted by five trustees (one of whom, the late Sir Redmond Barry, read a paper before this Association in 1877 on the Public Libraries of the Colony), during which time its progress was only made known by occasional addresses to the various Governors. This happened first when His Excellency Major General McArthur, Acting Governor of the Colony, opened the Library on the 11th February, 1856. In an address then presented, the trustees stated that in the year 1853, when the necessity for making provision to meet the literary wants of the community had forced itself upon Her Majesty's Government and the Legislature, the sums of £3,000. for the purchase of books, and £10,000. in aid of the erection of a suitable building, were voted by the Legislative Council; and in the following year like amounts were placed on the estimates for similar purposes and were cheerfully voted. On the occasion of the opening of the Library it contained only 3,846 volumes, and the hours of admission were from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., but through the energy of the governing body the sum of £2,500. was forwarded to England for the purchase of books, and in many ways additions were made to the scanty stock of literature then contained in the Library, amongst other means, the trustees requested the public by a series of advertisements to favour them with catalogues and lists of such works as might be

[1] J. G. Bourinot, *Intellectual Development of Canada.*

considered requisite. The following extract from the first report of the trustees shows the difficulties experienced in getting together a good collection of works. They wrote to several gentlemen, "members of this community" (that is of Victoria), then in Europe, with the hope of enlisting their co-operation in London and elsewhere in the selection of the books ordered, and in obtaining by gift or purchase from the British Museum, the Libraries of the Universities or Colleges, or from other public or private Societies, copies of any works of value. They, moreover, addressed a letter to the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, forwarded by His Excellency Mr. Latrobe, informing him of the establishment and nature of the Institution; of the necessity for procuring many works of approved merit, which the means at their disposal would not allow them to order; and suggesting that such as the statutes at large, the statutes of the realm, the various records, state papers, voyages, travels, surveys, maps, charts, plans and reports published by the various Royal and Parliamentary Societies and Commissions, or by the Admiralty, etc. etc., might be supplied.

The reply to this appeal from the Governor of the Colony was not encouraging, as is shown by the following statement of the trustees:

"It is with no slight regret that the trustees are compelled to say that their advertisements were disregarded; the letters, with one exception—a refusal—unacknowledged, and that His Grace the Secretary of State for the Colonies informed them "that he was unable to furnish any books unless payment were made for the same by the Colonial Government."

Although meeting with disappointment from every source, the trustees were by no means discouraged, but felt assured of the importance of so useful an Institution, and looked forward with sanguine expectation to the future. They have been amply rewarded by the steady increase in the value of the Institution, and by its recognized importance at the present time, not only in the Colony but throughout Australasia.

The number of visitors during the broken period of the first year of its existence was 23,769; but, as evidence of the want of such an Institution, this number was more than doubled during the succeeding year; the number of visitors reaching the total of 49,226. A desire was, during 1857, expressed, for extending the hours of admission, and taking into consideration that a vast number of persons were engaged during the day, and were, therefore, prohibited from using the Library until after four o'clock, the hours were extended to 9 p.m. This caused a considerable increase in the number of visitors, the figures showing a total for that year of 77,925. In the following year the hours were again extended from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m., and have remained so to the present time. During 1858 the Legislature placed the sum of £20,000 at the disposal of the trustees, to enable them to enlarge the building. In 1859 great progress had been made. A great number of books were purchased, and great care was taken by the trustees in the selection of the various works, it being governed by strict attention to principle, which would secure the standard publications in the different departments of history and literature. The number of books upon the shelves at this date was 13,214.

It was during this year that the various Mechanics' and other similar Institutions throughout the Colony were brought into connection with the Melbourne Public Library, a certain number of duplicate copies of books being despatched from time to time, so that some of the benefits of the Library might be enjoyed by those resident in the country towns.

In the year 1861 the collection of books upon the shelves had been more than doubled, numbering 27,240, whilst the number of readers had increased in a larger proportion, and in the words of the then Governor of Victoria, Sir Henry Barkly, "the library contained a collection of books rivalling in number and in value those of many long established provincial libraries in Europe."

The first printed catalogue of the books was published in 1862, being compiled by Mr. Tulk, the first librarian; but, owing to the rapid strides which the Library continued to make, the first supplement had to be compiled three years later; the number of volumes at that time, viz. 1865, reaching the total of 36,000, or an increase of 10,000 in the three years.

The Government continued to generously support this national institution; votes taken in 1863 and 1864 having supplied the sum of £11,880. Many additions were made to the building, including a new reading room, 90 feet long, which afforded the much desired increased accommodation. In this, and in its galleries, arrangements were carried out for the systematic distribution of books, and the building was capable of containing 60,000 volumes, and of accommodating at the same time 600 readers.

Since the first appeal of the trustees for donations to the Library ten years previous to this date, which remained unanswered, it is interesting to note that donations were received in 1865 from, among many others, the Emperor of the French, the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia, the King of Denmark, the King of Italy, the University of Copenhagen, the British Government, and the Board of Trade and Education. The trustees of the British Museum, presented all the books issued by their authority, together with a facsimile of the Old Testament from the Alexandrine Codex, six volumes folio—using the words of the trustees—"a noble present, suggested by the courteous attention of the librarian, Mr. Panizzi;" and Lord Russell was pleased to allow Mr. Hertslet of the Foreign Office to collect for presentation a selection of papers not usually procurable except through such influence. Thus it will be seen that the importance of the Melbourne Public Library was being generally recognized in all parts of the civilized world.

There were in Melbourne at this time three other Libraries, viz.—the Parliamentary Library, the University Library, and that of the Supreme Court. I make reference to these chiefly because the efforts of the trustees of the Public Library were directed to make that Library supplementary to the others, and thus avoid the needless multiplication of copies of the same works. In the trustees' report for 1865 it is stated they procured at first the leading authorities only on the especial branches of learning provided for in those libraries—the common sources of reference for readers of all classes, without which no library could be complete. They then filled in on a liberal scale all the books most approved of in the higher walks of professional, scientific and technical branches of employment, and provided largely all which bear on discoveries in physical science and the practical arts, and which help to unfold the natural and artificial resources of the country. These primary wants having received the earliest and amplest consideration, the trustees were enabled to diverge into other directions to fill up the interspaces, and so to balance the supply by appropriating in succeeding or alternate years certain sums—greater or less—to make good the deficiencies in the respective departments; to regulate the expansion and to enlarge the sub-divisions, so as to leave no class of literature wholly unrepresented.

The result was that when the contents of the four libraries were about 110,000

volumes in the aggregate, the number of copies of books by the same authors repeated in the different libraries did not exceed 15,000. This, as will readily be understood, not only saved unnecessary expense, but allowed of funds to be expended in the purchase of additional books, and by that means to increase the general value of the Public Library. Admission was also granted to either of the above-named libraries on production of a letter signed by the librarian of the National Library.

It is quite unnecessary to follow the progress year by year of this Library, so I will continue its history by giving only the subjects of chief importance. So steady and rapid had been the growth of the Institution that it became necessary to relieve the original trustees of the oppressive burden of the administration. In the year 1869 an act was introduced into Parliament, by which the Library was incorporated. During the same year the Copyright Act was passed, according to the Melbourne Public Library privileges similar to those enjoyed by the British Museum, the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and other institutions, viz.—that within two calendar months after the day on which any book shall be first sold, published or offered for sale, within the Colony of Victoria it shall be delivered by or on behalf of the publisher thereof at the Public Library, Melbourne.

Passing now over the next ten years—viz., to 1879—there was an immense increase, not only in the number of books to be found in the Library, but also in the number of readers taking advantage of its great usefulness, as the following figures will show:—

Books (including pamphlets)	108,000
Number of readers	266,839

It may be interesting to state that the total amount of money voted by the Legislature for the purchase of books up to this date reached the sum of £73,000, and that the total number of visitors since the opening of the Library—viz., during twenty-four years—was 4,473,927.

A most voluminous and important catalogue of the contents of the Library, prepared under the supervision of Mr. Sheffield, the librarian, was published during the following year, 1880. It consisted of about 2,000 pages contained in two bulky volumes. In referring to this catalogue the trustees reported as follows: "The catalogue is now presented to the public. Embracing a large proportion of the whole field of literature, ancient and modern, in its several divisions—comprising, more or less amply, works of the most eminent authors in each branch—including all the leading authorities of modern times on scientific subjects, on those relating to material industries, to mechanical and other pursuits; those connected with the moral, social, learned, instructive and interesting forms of intellectual development which occupy the anxious attention of all civilized communities of the present day, the catalogue shows that a collection of books has within the comparatively brief period of a quarter-of-a-century been assembled in a building worthy of the country, and of the sacred cause of literature, science, and art."

Two years elapsed, and then the demand for additional space pressed itself upon the Library Committee. It was, therefore, resolved to ask for a vote for additional buildings, and "a deputation was appointed to present the estimates to the Chief Secretary in person, and to point out to him the difficulty under which the trustees laboured in fulfilling their trust, in the absence of adequate accommodation for the several sections of the Institution."

The deputation waited upon the Chief Secretary, who promised to bring the request of the trustees before the Treasurer, with a strong recommendation that, if the state of

the finances permitted, it should be granted. In reply to this application, Sir Bryan O'Loghlen consented to place £4,000 on the estimates for 1882-83, and promised a further sum of £8,000 for 1883-84 should he have the preparation of the Estimates for that year; but, owing to the delay in passing the Estimates for 1882-83, the sum of £4,000 lapsed, and a sum of £6,000 was placed on the Estimates for 1883-84, and was voted by Parliament, and the work of enlarging the building was proceeded with at a cost of £21,485.

During the year 1882, 3,250 volumes, 11,957 pamphlets and parts, 238 maps, and 19,234 newspapers were added to the Library; and among the many donations received I must specially mention one from the Hon. C. J. Hano, Mayor of Melbourne, who purchased and presented to the Library the "Batman Diary" and "Cook Memorials." Another important addition during the year named was a valuable collection of newspapers belonging to the late John Pascoe Fawkner, consisting of 88 volumes of Colonial newspapers, dating from the earliest introduction of the press.

The Library Committee had continually under their consideration the desirability of establishing a Town Lending Branch in connexion with the Melbourne Public Library on a plan similar to that of the lending departments of the Leeds, Liverpool, and Birmingham Free Libraries, as it was felt that the very useful function discharged by the above-mentioned Public Libraries, and by several of the Continental Libraries, was unfulfilled by the Melbourne Public Library, but, owing to the want of funds (the establishment of a Town lending branch, together with its working, being estimated to cost £1,100 annually) they felt that they were precluded from giving practical effect to the project at that time. I am glad, however, to state that the question has not been lost sight of, but is engaging the attention of the Committee at the present time.

The total number of volumes and pamphlets in the Library at the close of 1882 amounted to 96,735 and 26,298 respectively, and in 1883 the number of volumes had increased to 100,430 and pamphlets 42,643, and it was visited by no fewer than 299,164 visitors, thus clearly showing that its usefulness was greater than ever it had been, and that its benefits were much appreciated by the residents of Victoria.

An important matter in connection with the national importance of the Library, was brought before the Government during the year 1883—viz., the question of the distribution of the Government publications—The Trustees of the Public Library expressing their desire to become the medium of distribution of such presents in the name and on behalf of the Government—being prepared to carry out the wishes of the Government and of the heads of departments. They referred as an authority to the "History of the Smithsonian Exchanges," a work setting forth how the system of Exchanges was established, and how the Library of the Smithsonian Institution had been enriched through undertaking the distribution of the publications of the Government of the United States, and what it has received in exchange for them. "We ask the Government to give up nothing but a burden, to send through one centre, and to let that centre be the Public Library"—such were the words of the trustees. The Government have recently adopted the suggestion, and at the present time the Melbourne Public Library is the one centre from which all Government publications are issued.

In concluding the account of this Library which has made such rapid strides during only a short existence, I will only supplement the foregoing particulars by bringing its history up to the latest date, and by just touching upon the other public libraries which are to be met with in most of the towns of the Colony, and I will quote from the

Victorian Handbook compiled by Mr. Hayter, for the latest information. The buildings of the Melbourne Public Library have cost from first to last £111,604, and are still unfinished. These funds were provided by Government, as also were further monies amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £361,611, of which £17,522 was received by the trustees during the year 1883. The private contributions, consisting of books, pamphlets, maps, newspapers, &c., have amounted in all to 213,715, of which 116,102 were presented to the Institution, and the remainder were deposited under the Copyright Statute. The estimated value of these contributions is £16,514. The total number of volumes in the Library at the end of 1883 was 143,073, exclusive of pamphlets.

The number of volumes circulated in the interior from 1861 to 1882 reached the total of 72,054.

There is also a Public Library in connexion with the Patent Office attached to the Registrar General's Office, this contains about 3000 volumes, consisting of the patent records of Great Britain, Victoria, New South Wales, New Zealand, Canada, the United States, &c., and other works. The approximate value of the books is £4000.

The Supreme Court Library also has a most complete stock of legal works, and has branches in the ten assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession, and is supported by fees paid under rules of Court for the admission of barristers and attorneys. The number of volumes at the end of 1883 was 14,707, and the expenditure from its establishment has amounted to £18,794. This library as I have previously stated is open to the public on presentation of an order from the Librarian of the Public Library.

Now with regard to the Country Libraries, although many are accumulating valuable and large collections of books, time will not permit me to single out any one for special mention, so in referring to them collectively it is only necessary to add that there are free Libraries in most of the towns of the Colony. Some of them receive books on loan from the Melbourne Public Library. Two hundred and twenty-nine furnished returns for 1883 to the Government Statist. Their statements show that their total receipts in that year amounted to £34,739, of which £9,525 was contributed by Government and £25,214 by private individuals. The number of volumes in all the institutions amount to 317,295, and during the year about 2,000,000 visits were paid to 147 of them which kept attendance books. It is estimated that if visitors attended the remaining libraries in the same proportion, the total number of visits during 1883 must have amounted to more than 3,100,000, whilst the population of Victoria only numbers, according to the latest statistics, 931,790, thus showing an average number of visits per head of the population of more than 3 for one year only.

(*To be continued*).

LIBRARY SURPLUSAGE.[1]

By Joseph Gilburt.

Library Surplusage, and the practice of weeding and thinning out the books, are familiar things to the circulating librarian, whose purchases of books when they are new and popular must needs exceed tenfold the after-requirements for them. This, however, is not the case with most librarians, whose experience is rather of slow and deliberate accumulation of books, acquired, catalogued and retained, the best being earliest worn out. In the circulating library "survival of the fittest" is the ruling law, and some features of the operation of it may not be uninteresting, though library surplusage is, to a great extent, a matter of commerce, rather than of librarianship. The meditative librarian looking over his books, is like a gardener troubled with weeds, flowers of short blooming time, old unproductive plants, and other cumberers of the ground.

But, where in the range of library horticulture is the position of the 3-volume novels? It takes up a much larger space than any librarian is agreeable to, yet he must tolerate it. I find from the English Catalogue 1884 that of 3-vol. and 2-vol. novels, there were 154 published last year, and am informed by one of the leading publishers that the edition of few, if any, is less than 500 copies. I have carefully looked over the titles and authors of these 154 works, and estimate that out of them not more than 39 may be expected to occupy a place in any degree approaching permanency in the literature of our country, or to occupy a place in a library catalogue ten years hence. There must then be over 50,000 copies of last year's publications useless, valueless, and as I shall show, productive of loss to the librarians; and yet we continually read in the daily and weekly press, in the topical article and the reviewer's preliminary remarks, that the 3-volume novel exists for the circulating librarian's benefit and that he is the cause of its existence. I look at this matter from the point of view of those libraries which take the novels when first published and pay from 5s. to 7s. a volume for them. It is fair to assume that if these customers were wanting (there are, I believe, not more than 10 of them) the novels could not exist, as the case must be very rare of any sane person in private life buying a 3-volume novel at £1. 11s. 6d. I ascertain from the large remainder buyers, that fully half the editions of these works come into their hands, and that the price paid for them seldom exceeds one-sixth of what is paid for them when new, also that from six months to twelve after publication is their age when sold as remainders. This, more than anything else, rules the price that the circulating librarian can get for his surplus copies. It must then be said that it is for advance copies of these ephemeral works that he pays the price he does. Very recently the writer of one of the more unsuccessful of the 3-volume novels, which opened with a chapter of doubtful delicacy, charged its failure upon the unwise prudishness of the circulating libraries, and bringing out another which was downright indecent, published it in a different form, raising a battle cry against the monopoly and the tyranny maintained by the circulating librarian behind his 3-volume oulwarks. Monopoly of the privilege of dealing at a loss, and tyranny in seeking to minimise that loss, is what it amounts to. The first of this author's works failed from its sheer inability, and the last seems to be succeeding from its glaring indecency; but we must seek elsewhere than of this author for fair illustration of the principle.

[1] Read at the July Monthly Meeting of the Library Association.

Apparent support is found for the statements I am controverting in the fact that about the same time (the middle of the 18th century) the circulating library and the novel in many volumes began to exist; but the novel of that time had little in common with that of to-day. One of the 154 novels of last year, and not by any means a solitary instance, contains 170 pp. to the volume, and 21 lines to the page. This is one of the 31s. 6d. works actually costing 5s. 6d. a volume, all discounts and allowances deducted. But I have examined a copy of "Clarissa Harlowe," 3rd edition, 1750, which gives 346 pp. to the vol. 38 lines to the page, in the last vol. 396 pp. The eight volumes of this were published at 31s. 6d., from which discounts were allowed. "Joseph Andrews," 2nd edition, 1742, 2 vols. published at 10s. 6d., gives 308 pp. to the vol., 31 lines to the page. "Cecilia," 8th edition, 1802, 5 vols. published at 20s., gives 321 pp. to the vol., 32 lines to the page. "Waverley," 1814, 3 vols. published at 20s., has 371 pp. to the vol., 24 lines to the page. Thus, Richardson gives 13,376 lines for 4s., Fielding 9,548 lines for 5s. 3d., Miss Burney 10,272 for 4s., Sir W. Scott 8,904 lines for 6s. 8d.; but the modern novelist can only spare us 3,570 lines for 10s. 6d. Until about 1850 all our novels were bought from the publishers in quires, and bound or cased by the circulating libraries, a paper lettering piece for the back was issued with each copy. After that we had them in paper boards, and so advanced gradually to the "blazers" in cloth cases of the present day. It is singular that the most successful novel of late years, "John Inglesant," by Shorthouse, did not in any way follow the precedent of three 10s. 6d. vols., but came out in the popular form in two 6s. vols. giving 388 pp. to the vol., 30 lines to the page. Few of Dickens', Thackeray's, and George Eliot's novels were published in the 3-vol. conventional form.

The idea of a 3-volume novel is this:—That the public are eager to read the work which is too costly for them to buy, therefore they must hire it from the circulating library; and so that several may be reading it at once it is divided up into portions. On this principle I have many old quartos and octavos of historical works, each volume divided into two, the second of course having to be bound up without title page or contents table. But things have changed now; the chief libraries only let their novels go out in sets, so that there is no question of accommodating several readers at once, it is simply a matter of taxing a library on three vols. instead of one on the assumption that, fearing loss of reputation if without these works, the librarian will pay the tax of some 3s. a volume over their value to have them whilst the reviewers are talking about them. If it should be desired to know what are the supports of the 3-vol. novels, I should say, advertisements and ennui. To escape from the latter, readers, chiefly ladies, fly to the former, and drawn by a catching title, demand these works, which increase the ailment which they are sought to cure: and then they are brought back with a complaint, just as if the unfortunate librarian had written them himself, instead of having had to pay six times their value, earning no thanks, and having little further use for them, besides feeling it to be a species of flunkeydom, his having to dance attendance on silly women, and recommend them sillier novels. Of all the advertisements that support these works, the post-card nuisance is the most objectionable. When Lady A. or the Honorable Mrs. B. has got a publisher to bring out her novel, some hundreds of post-cards are forthwith sent off, with this printed on them. "Ask at your library for the new novel, of great social interest and importance, entitled, &c., &c." Each of the writer's connexions and acquaintances receives one of these. The gentlemen are required to order the book at their clubs, which they do, even if they don't read it.

The more candid who request it at the circulating library, say they have been asked to order it, but do not care about it, and many expect to have it in excess of the number they pay for, for that reason. This device of forcing a demand is used independently of the better publishers, but with the aid of the inferior ones, and provokes resistance on the librarian's part, to the extent of defeating its object.

But it may be said, What bearing on library surplusage has this question of novels in 3 volumes? This, that their bulk exceeds any other description of books that become surplus and require ruthless clearing away. I do not wish to be understood as condemning all 3-volume novels. Many works of that kind have an honoured place in our standard literature, but the proportion of 39 such to 154 published in one year, I think, justifies my remarks. No novel of any kind reaches the demand for a good work of history, travel, or philosophy. Professor Drummond's "Natural Law in the Spiritual World" has left all fiction far behind.

Next to the novel, the most ephemeral kind of literature is the lighter book of travel, that is, the book wherein the author's own experiences or adventures are made more of than the nature or history of the country he travels in. These books come in flocks, according as the eye of the public is directed to this or that part of the world. Soudanese travels are publishing fast now, as South African did, and Tonquinese, South African, Malagassy, Afghan or Bulgarian, each in turn. Of all these, but a small proportion will last. If any political party bias animates them, their end is surer and speedier. It is curious to notice how the publication of a thorough and complete book on a particular place will bustle and scuttle away a lot of lighter and less trustworthy ones before it, and extinguish their feeble demand. These books often fall in the surplus catalogues to a tenth of their published price, while a good work of history or biography will command more than half. The literary crazes have a great effect on the surplusage of the circulating library. Recently the prison books were singular examples of this. "Five years' penal servitude, by one who endured it," rose to near the top of the figures representing the public demand. It was followed by "Convict Life," "Her Majesty's Prisons," "Chronicles of York Castle," "of Millbank," "of Newgate" followed, and at last "Eighteen Months' Imprisonment," which folks used to come into the library and say they really ought to have. The Quarterly Review of January 1884 had a laudatory article on American Fiction, and brought a host of reprints upon us, which had their day and passed into the ranks of the surplusage. Later, a sensational story, slumbering with a limited circulation in a Bristol Christmas Annual, is brought into prominent notice by a commendatory article in "Truth," and then; reprinted, has a sale numbering somewhere about a hundred thousand, and sets the example for a year-and-a-half's incessant cannonade of suchlike sensational fiction.

These are the sort of books that swell the surplus catalogues. A really sound book, such as, for instance, Darwin's, may have as many copies taken, and surplus ones sold in as great number, and yet the demand is ever ahead of the accumulation, and it is hardly necessary to put it in the catalogue at all. A singular instance was that of the Life of Bishop Wilberforce. Volume I, ably edited by Ashwell, had a good reading, fetched a fair price, and did not trouble by excessive surplusage. Vol. III, by Reginald Wilberforce, had scandals in it which a more careful editor would probably have excluded, became a craze, and its surplusage became so great that the price is less than cost of paper and covers.

The disposal of the surplus copies of good books is more like transplantation to

other gardens, while weeding the novels and the results of the crazes is more like clearing away rubbish. The judicious librarian, therefore, will find it desirable to encourage the former class of book rather than the latter. And assuredly the reader's satisfaction will be quite as great as the librarian's, for nothing irritates much more than the knowledge of time wasted over a book that does not pay for it, or gratifies more than the thought of the knowledge acquired from a really satisfactory one. There is yet another form of library surplusage, which might, perhaps, be more fitly called *minusage*, were there such a word. I mean broken sets, owing to lost volumes. Even supposing you get paid for these by the losers, there they are; and experience tends to show that there is no limit to the time in which they may possibly come back. Then, in some past period of greater laxity than that which characterizes your present administration, among a large purchase some sets of two second volumes, or two firsts, were passed into the library, and there they are, useless to you, with the uncomfortable knowledge that some one, somewhere, has the volumes that would make them right, also useless to him. A publisher recently told me of having cleared out a large number of odd volumes of a great historical work which came out a volume at a time. These he had to sell at little over waste paper price, and yet the same number of copies were printed of each volume. Where, then, were the holders of all the odd sets? and how are they to be evened? Advertisement in the pages of our *Chronicle*, of the *Bookseller*, and of the *Publisher's Circular*, will do somewhat; but I drop the suggestion to librarians whether a registry of odd volumes for their own use, and for rectification of the sets between themselves, might not be a feasible plan.

EXAMINATION OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

Questions set at the Examination, July, 1885.

I. ENGLISH LITERATURE.

1. Enumerate the principal dramatists who wrote under Elizabeth, James I. and Charles I., in their approximate chronological order.
2. Mention the best English letter-writers of the 18th century.
3. Give the titles of ten selected English novels published within the last ten years.
4. What great English poets were contemporary with Byron?
5. Give a list of Dickens's works, in order of publication.
6. What are the doubtful plays sometimes attributed to Shakespeare?
7. By what works are the following persons chiefly known: Hon. Mrs. Caroline Norton, W. S. Landor, T. de Quincey, Archbishop Whateley, John Webster, Rev. Mark Pattison, Thomas Parnell, David Hume, Sir John Vanbrugh, Sir Henry Taylor?
8. Who was Master Samuel Hartlib?
9. What do you know of the "Paston Letters"?
10. From what foreign author is the story of the "Knight's Tale" in the "Canterbury Pilgrims" borrowed by Chaucer?

II. FRENCH LITERATURE.

1. Translate into English:

Jusqu'ici nous avons décrit la vie orageuse d'un poète philosophe, à qui son amour pour la vérité et l'independance de son caractère avaient fait encore plus d'ennemis

que ses succès, qui n'avait répondu à leurs mechancetés que par des épigrammes, ou plaisantis ou terribles, et dont la conduite avait été plus souvent inspirée par le sentiment qui le dominait dans chaque circonstance que combinée d'après un plan formé par sa raison. Maintenant dans la retraite, éloigné de toutes les illusions, de tout ce qui pouvait élever en lui des passions personelles et passagères, nous allons le voir abandonné à ses passions dominantes et durables, l'amour de la gloire, le besoin de produire plus puissant encore, et le zèle pour la destruction des préjugés, la plus forte et la plus active de toutes celles qu'il a connues. Cette vie paisible, rarement troublée par des menaces de persécutions plûtot que par des persécutions réelles, sera embellie non seulement comme ses premières années par l'exercice de cette bienfaisance particulière, qualité commune à tous les hommes dont le malheur ou la vanité n'ont point endurci l'âme et corrompu la raison, mais par des actions de cette bienfaisance courageuse et éclairée qui en adoucissant les maux de quelques individus sert en même temps l'humanité entière.

2. Give a list in order of publication of Victor Hugo's works.

3. Mention the chief French historians who have flourished in the 19th century.

4. Who were the Port-Royalists?

5. Compare the characteristics of Voltaire and Rousseau; name two distinguished female writers influenced by the latter.

III. GERMAN LITERATURE.

1. Translate into English

Wir Deutsche hatten den Vortheil dass mehrere bedeutende Werke fremder Nationen auf eine leichte und heitere Weise herüber gebracht wurden. Shakspeare prosaisch übersetzt, erst durch Wieland, dann durch Eschenburg, konnte als eine allgemein verständliche und jedem Leser gemässe Lektüre sich schnell verbreiten und grosse Wirkung hervorbringen. Ich ehre den Rhythmus wie den Reim, wodurch Poesie erst zur Poesie wird, aber das eigentlich tief und gründlich wirksame, das wahrhaft Ausbildende und Fördernde ist dasjenige was vom Dichter übrig bleibt, wenn er in Prosa übersetzt wird. Dann bleibt der reine vollkommene Gehalt, den uns ein blendendes Aussere oft, wenn er fehlt, vorzuspiegeln weiss, und wenn er gegenwärtig ist, verdeckt. Ich halte daher, zum Anfang jugendlicher Bildung prosaische Uebersetzungen für vortheilhafter als die poetischen; deun es lässt sich bemerken dass Knaben denen ja doch alles zum Scherze dienen muss, sich am Schall der Wörte, am Fall der Sylben ergötzen, und durch eine Art von parodistischen Muthwillen den tiefen Gehalt des edelsten Werks zerstören. Desshalb gebe ich zu bedenken ob nicht zunächst eine prosaische Uebersetzung des Homer zu unternehmen wäre; aber freilich müsste sie der Stufe würdig sein, auf der sich die deutsche Literatur gegenwärtig befindet.

2. Give a list in order of their publication of Goethe's works.

3. Give some particulars of the life of Heine.

4. Describe briefly the Lay of the 'Nibelungen.'

5. State the period, principal writers and general tendencies of the German Romantic School.

IV. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND CLASSIFICATION.

NOTE.—Second class candidates are not expected to attempt the last five questions.

1. Catalogue the ten books before you according to the rules of the Library Association, and classify them under sections and subsections.

2. What is the difference between the British Museum and Library Association rules as to anonymous and pseudonymous books?

3. Explain the meaning of colophon, block-book, imprint, incunabula, catchword, bibliophile, bibliomania, bibliopole, bibliognost, signature.

4. Give a list of the most useful bibliographical books of reference.

5. Who wrote 'Retaliation,' 'Life in London,' 'Rejected Addresses,' 'Arte of Englishe Poesie,' 'Pamela,' 'Ode to Nightingale,' 'Corn Law Rhymes,' 'The works of Peter Porcupine,' 'The New Atlantis,' 'Empedocles on Etna'?

6. What are the chief modern works upon the period of English history before the Conquest?

7. Mention not less than six, nor more than ten, of the best printed library catalogues known to you, and specify the chief characteristics of each.

8. Give an outline of the system of classification used in your own library, or that of any library with which you may be acquainted.

9. Sketch the outline for a classification of a collection of works on English History.

10. Describe briefly Brunet's system of classification.

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11. In what towns was printing in use up to and including the year 1470? Give the names of six or more continental printers of the 15th century. When was printing introduced into England.

12. What are the English equivalents for 'Atrebatæ,' 'Duacum,' 'Madritum,' 'Moguntia,' 'Trajectum ad Rhenum,' 'Tridentum,' 'Ulyssipo,' and the Latin for 'Paris,' 'Lyons,' 'York,' 'Vienna'?

13. Distinguish between the natural and the artificial systems of classification.

14. Give the leading authorities for the history of England from the accession of James I. to the establishment of the Protectorate.

15. Give, as minutely as you can, an original plan for the classification of local books of any county in the United Kingdom.

V. LIBRARY MANAGEMENT.

NOTE.—Second class candidates are not expected to attempt the last five questions.

1. What are the leading Periodicals and Newspapers you would propose for your Newsroom apart from the publications of your own immediate district?

A. Daily. B. Weekly. C. Monthly.

2. How would you arrange Pamphlets so as to have them readily accessible and yet so as to be safely kept?

3. Describe Accession Book, Shelf Register or Stock-taking Book, Binding Book.

4. What record of the issue of Books would you keep, and how should it be arranged for ready reference?

A. Reference Library. B. Lending Library.

5. What provision would you make against fire?

6. What steps would you take to let the public know your recent additions?

7. What precautions would you take against loss of books?

8. How would you arrange the leading Newspapers so as to be easily read by several readers?

9. Describe the chief Library Indicators, and say which you think is the most serviceable and why.

10. What books would you require in which to keep the Library Accounts?

11. If the income of the Library is £1000. per annum, how would you apportion that sum under the head of—

A. Rent of building, or interest on loan and insurance.

B. Salaries of librarian and assistants, including caretaker and cleaners.

C. Purchase of new Books and supply of Periodical Literature, including Newspapers; also amount to be expended on Replacement of Books worn out.

D. Light, Coal, Water, &c.

12. What kinds of books would you purchase new? and what would you purchase second-hand?

For A. Reference Library. B. Lending Library.

13. Supposing a Library to consist of three Public Rooms—Reference and Lending Libraries and Newsroom,—and a staff of six, yourself, two responsible assistants and three boys. Draw up a scheme specifying the duties of member of the staff, with a time table giving the attendance of each.

14. The Librarian's relation to the Readers—Discuss this.

15. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the Apprentice system.

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. GARNETT.

On Thursday July 2nd, by permission of the Principal Librarian, a meeting of readers at the British Museum was held in the new wing of the building for the purpose of presenting Mr. Richard Garnett, LL.D., late Superintendent of the Reading Room, with a testimonial in acknowledgment of his services in that capacity. The gift, which had been provided by a subscription among the readers limited to an individually small sum, consisted of an address, beautifully illuminated by W. Butler, after the pattern of an antique manuscript. Mr. Bond, C.B., Principal Librarian, Mr. Bullen, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Porter, and other officers of the Museum were present.

In presenting the address, Mr. Francis Hitchman (author of the "Life of Lord Beaconsfield") expressed in appropriate terms the sense of Mr. Garnett's services entertained by frequenters of the reading room, and cordially acknowledged the universal disposition of the Museum authorities to promote the interests of the public.

Mr. Garnett, in returning thanks, said he rose with feelings of very considerable embarrassment. The generous and graceful action of his friends in the reading room had aroused emotions which he could not well express, but which would never be obliterated from his mind. The advantages he had derived from intercourse with them while holding his late official situation had been so considerable that the position of the parties on the present occasion might well have been reversed. No man could honestly fill such a post without acquiring much valuable knowledge, including the most valuable of all, the knowledge of his own ignorance. He had tried to do his best, however imperfectly,

and had been rewarded by many most valuable friendships, which would have made quitting the reading room a grave sorrow to him, if he had been obliged to look upon the separation as final and complete. He had not, however, retired to any great distance; he was still at hand in the adjoining library, and a frequent visitor to the reading room, and he looked to preserving the friendships he had formed within it. He had the further satisfaction of being at present employed upon an undertaking, the printing of the Museum catalogue, primarily intended for the benefit of the reading room, and certain to be of the greatest advantage to students. He had had the still greater pleasure of relinquishing the administration of the reading room to a successor so intelligent, obliging and efficient as Mr. Fortescue, the present Superintendent, and of leaving Mr. Anderson, to whom the great improvements in the system of supplying books were mainly due, in the position of Reading-room Clerk. The period of his administration had been distinguished by remarkable circumstances, above all the very large increase in the number of persons resorting to the reading room which the Museum authorities could not claim to have caused, but for which they had done their best to provide. Among the measures adopted to this end were particularly to be enumerated the introduction of the electric light, which had lengthened the hours of the day, and abolished fogs; the placing of special bibliographies in the room, to supply as far as possible the want of a classed catalogue; and the formation of a second library of reference in the gallery. All these were due to the initiative of Mr. Bond, the Principal Librarian; the two latter had been executed by Mr. Porter, assistant-keeper of printed books. In conclusion, he begged to assure the subscribers that the feelings with which they had inspired him would never be effaced, and that their beautiful gift would be treasured by him and those who might come after him.

Mr. W. H. Richardson moved that the thanks of the meeting be given to Mr. Francis Hitchman and Mr. John Ashton, who had taken upon themselves the entire trouble and responsibility of the arrangements which had proved so eminently satisfactory.

Mr. John Ashton (author of "Social Life in the Reign of Queen Anne"), in acknowledging the vote, requested the thanks of the meeting for Mr. Butler, the illuminator, which were most cordially given.

Mr. Forbes-Robertson moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Bond, the Principal Librarian, for permitting the use of the room, and attending the meeting.

Mr. Bond said it had afforded him great pleasure to countenance and promote the object of the subscribers. He warmly acknowledged the advantage which he had himself derived from Mr. Garnett's services. The work of printing the catalogue, on which Mr. Garnett was now engaged, was in his opinion as valuable a contribution to the efficiency of the Reading-Room as any that had been made of late years.

The meeting then dispersed.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

JUNE MONTHLY MEETING.

The June Monthly Meeting was held at the London Institution on Friday, June 5th, at 8 p.m., Mr. TEDDER in the chair.

It was announced that the following gentleman had become a member of the Association:—Mr. J. R. BOOSÉ, Librarian of the Royal Colonial Institute.

The Rev. W. S. LACH-SZYRMA and Mr. SILVANUS TREVAIL, having been duly proposed and seconded at the May meeting, were elected Members of the Association.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. J. R. Boosé to read a Paper on "The Progress of Colonial Public Libraries." After a discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper. The meeting then adjourned.

JULY MONTHLY MEETING.

The July Monthly Meeting was held on Friday, July 3rd, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Mr. HENRY STEVENS in the chair.

Mr. THOMAS COUD, Edgbaston, Birmingham, was proposed and seconded for election at the next meeting.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. JOSEPH GILBURT to read a Paper on "Library Surplusage," and Mr. E. C. THOMAS to read a Paper on "The MSS. of the The Philobiblon." After a discussion, votes of thanks were passed to the writers of the Papers. The meeting then adjourned.

An examination of Library Assistants was held on Tuesday, July 7th, in London and at Nottingham. The Examination Papers are printed in the present number of the CHRONICLE.

A circular has been issued announcing that the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Association will be held at the Western Law Courts, Plymouth, on Tuesday, the 15th of September next and three following days. The chair will be taken by our President, the Worshipful the Mayor of Plymouth, Edward James, Esq., J.P.

Reports will be laid before the meeting by the Council and Treasurer, and by the Special Committees which have been at work during the year. It is proposed to pay particular attention to the subject of Classification, and Papers will be read on various questions relating to Library Administration and Bibliography, one day being devoted to matters affecting Free Public Libraries.

The Local Committee propose to arrange an Exhibition of Library Appliances and of rare and interesting Books and Manuscripts, contributions to which will be gratefully accepted. Communications on this subject should be addressed to Mr. W. H. K. Wright, Borough Librarian, Plymouth.

The Council will be glad to receive offers of Papers, intimation of which should be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary as early as possible. The Papers themselves must be submitted for approval by the Council not later than the 31st of August. The meeting will also consider motions of which one month's previous notice has been given to the Secretary.

The local arrangements for the meetings are well advanced, and everything promises a most successful gathering. The order of proceedings will probably be as follows:—

On Tuesday, September 15th, the Mayor of Plymouth will receive the Association in the Council Chamber at a Special Meeting of the Town Council, after which the business of the meeting will be proceeded with. In the afternoon visits will be paid

to various local institutions, and in the evening the Association will be received by the Free Library Committee in the Library. On Wednesday it is proposed to open the Book Fair and Exhibition of Library Appliances in the Old Hospital buildings, and after the business of the day the members will visit Saltram, where they will be received by the Right Hon. the Earl of Morley. The Mayor will give a reception in the evening at the Guildhall. On Thursday, after the Papers have been disposed of, the members will proceed by steamer to Mount Edgcumbe, at the invitation of the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, to inspect the library and grounds. In the evening the President of the Plymouth Institution will receive the members at the Athenæum. On Friday afternoon the members will be taken for a marine excursion, and it is hoped to visit some of the Government establishments. It is proposed that the members of the Association should entertain the President at dinner in the evening. An excursion will be arranged for Saturday, and an opportunity will probably be afforded to visit the libraries of Exeter, and also to be present at the opening of the Free Library at Truro.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

Bristol.—The Redland branch of the Free Libraries was opened on June 8th by the Mayor, in the presence of a numerous gathering. The Mayor sketched the history of the libraries. Redland is the fifth branch opened, and has over ten thousand volumes. Addresses were also delivered by Mr. J. D. Weston, Chairman of the Libraries Committee, Mr. John Taylor, the Librarian, and several other gentlemen. —The Bedminster branch was re-opened on the same day, after being closed for a fortnight for cleaning and re-decoration.

Cardiff: Free Library and Museum. —Colonel Hill having conveyed an offer of a gift of pictures to the committee, on condition that the Picture Gallery should be kept open on Sundays, the matter was referred back to the committee by the Town Council. The matter was discussed on May 18th, when, after a long discussion, in the course of which a proposal to take the opinion of the ratepayers was rejected, the committee resolved:—"That, in the opinion of this committee, seeing the logical issue of opening museums on Sunday must involve an enormous increase in Sunday labour, and so lead to the virtual enslavement of working men, and to the prejudice of national interests, it is undesirable to accept the offer of Colonel Hill on the condition named, and it therefore respectfully declines to accept the same."

London: The Beaumont Trust.—The Beaumont Trustees, in pursuance of resolutions moved by the Prince of Wales and the Earl of Rosebery at a meeting held at the Mansion House on June 23rd, have issued a circular, appealing for funds to carry out the scheme of the late Mr. John Beaumont, in providing for the "intellectual improvement and rational recreation and amusement" of the inhabitants of East London. It is proposed to put up a "People's Palace," to contain technical schools, a library, reading rooms, winter garden and concert hall, recreation ground, gymnasium and swimming baths. The Drapers' Company have given £20,000 for the technical schools, provided that another £20,000 be raised for the proposed library and reading rooms. The trustees have already about £20,000 at their disposal, while the cost of the entire scheme is estimated at £100,000. It is hoped to begin building in the spring. The trustees say:—"Of the benefits of a library and reading room there is no need to speak. In respect to all these proposals we must remember, that while most large provincial towns enjoy such benefits, East London has no municipal life capable of furnishing it with anything of the kind, and has only a few scattered institutions."

London: Birkbeck Institution.—The new premises of the Birkbeck Literary and Scientific Institution were formally opened on Saturday afternoon by the Prince of Wales. Over £20,000 has been spent upon the building, which can accommodate 6,000 students, and on which a debt of £3,500 still rests. Speeches were made at the ceremony by the Prince of Wales, the Earl of Iddesleigh, the President of the Institution (Mr. W. Lloyd Birkbeck), the Lord Mayor, M.P., and Sir C. Tupper, High Commissioner for Canada.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—At a public meeting held to consider the advisability of adopting the Libraries Acts, it was unanimously decided to adopt them. About £1,000 has been collected towards a building, &c., and it is hoped to have the library opened before the winter.

OXFORD.—A meeting of the subscribers to the Pusey Memorial was held at Oxford on June 25th. After a thanksgiving service in the University Church, there was a luncheon at Keble College, at which the company numbered about three hundred. The Bishop of Oxford presided. Lord Glasgow said they were met to commemorate the first and almost private opening of the Pusey House and Library, towards which the sum of nearly £33,000 had been subscribed. It was also announced that a fourth librarian was now required, and an appeal was made for further funds to extend the work.

POOLE.—A meeting, convened by the Mayor of Poole, was held in that town on the 14th of July, when it was determined by a large majority to adopt the Public Libraries Act. Alderman Norton offered to contribute £100 towards the cost of erecting a library.

FOREIGN.

Europe.

BERLIN.—The new reading room of the Royal Library is now open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and from 4 to 9 p.m. The lighting is by electricity. It is also intended to use electricity in the reading room of the University Library.

GIESSEN. — Dr. Ludwig Noack, the University Librarian, died on the 15th June. He intended to retire from the librarianship in August.

PARMA.—It is reported that no less than 5,000 volumes have been stolen from the University Library, and the secretary of the library has been arrested.

Australia.

MELBOURNE.—The *Melbourne Age* in its issues for June 3rd and 6th, gives an account of the work done by the Melbourne Public Library since its foundation. The reading room, which is illuminated by the electric light, affords accommodation for 400 persons, and it frequently happens that in the evenings the whole of the seats are occupied. The number of readers is on the average 1,000 a day. During the past eighteen months the books have been in process of re-classifying and re-arranging. In connexion with this subject, the *Age* calls attention to the inconvenience arising from the unrestricted access of the readers to the shelves. Not only are the books very often replaced in wrong shelves, but a good many valuable books are found to disappear. The *Age* observes :—"It cannot be that Dr. Bride is ignorant of the perfect system to which reference library work is reduced in the parent country, or that he fails to study the interesting annual reports of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, which, at the useful peregrinating conferences it alternately holds in the leading towns of the parent country, discusses all minutiæ connected with library administration. Let Mr. Nicholson, the able and experienced librarian at the Bodleian, and the founder of the association just mentioned, be asked whether the lax system prevailing here would be tolerated with his approval at home. His confrères in Cambridge, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow would unite with him in ridiculing the *naïve* confidence in human virtue shown by the authorities in Melbourne, which is only suitable to be exercised in Utopia."

United States.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY. — The annual report of the library shows that 12,360 volumes have been added during the year, making a total of 290,710 volumes and 241,250 pamphlets. The college library numbers 220,341 volumes and 215,097 pamphlets. During the year 84 per cent. of the students made use of the library.

NEW YORK: FREE CIRCULATING LIBRARY.—This library was opened in 1878 by a few ladies to lend books to the poor, but the work has increased until now nearly 100,000 volumes are circulated every year. Out of this number only three books were lost. At a meeting held on May 2, Mr. Andrew Carnegie offered $4,000 in addition to $1,000 already presented, and

further subscriptions were promised. It was decided to make a public appeal for further funds. This library and the Ottendorfer Free Library, which was opened last December, circulate 240,000 volumes per annum.

NEW YORK: LIBRARY CLUB.—Mr. Melvil Dewey has founded a new association under the name of the New York Library Club. A meeting to make the necessary arrangements was held on June 18th, at Columbia College Library. Messrs. Peoples, Dewey, Schwartz, Bowker and Hannah were appointed an executive board, and it was decided to hold meetings in November, January, March and May.

THE Seventh Annual Conference of the American Library Association will probably be held at Lake George on September 8th, and three following days.

WE have been favoured by Mr. Yates with a copy of a correspondence with the Patent Office authorities respecting the supply of their publications. The question of their delivery has been re-considered, and Mr. J. Clark Hall wrote to Mr. Yates on the 30th of June that "all Specifications published since No. 2,200 of 1884 shall be forwarded to your library without delay in single numbers." The effect of this most desirable change is that the specifications are now supplied in weekly parcels as formerly, instead of in volumes, each containing 200 specifications.

A CONFERENCE of the friends of the Sunday Society was held in Paris on June 16th, in consequence of which a letter was addressed to M. Michelin, the President of the Municipal Council of Paris, asking a series of questions on the opening of museums and galleries in Paris. M. Michelin has answered these questions in a letter dated June 30th, which may be found in the *Sunday Review*.

THE following is the list of the museums and libraries which are opened on Sunday, prepared by the Sunday Society:—National Museum and Galleries at Kew; National Galleries at Hampton Court Palace; National Exhibition at Greenwich Hospital; National Gallery of Ireland, Dublin; National Museum of Science and Art, Dublin; Birmingham Art Gallery, Library and Museum; Manchester, Seven Free Public Libraries; Middlesbrough Free Public Library; Newcastle-on-Tyne Free Public Library; Stockport Municipal Museum; Stoke-upon-Trent Free Library and Museum, and Wigan Free Public Library.

THE May number of the *Library Journal* contains part of an address on "The College Library," by the Rev. Dr. Davis, Librarian of the University of Wooster. "Stephen B. Noyes, a Biographical Sketch," by J. B. Noyes. In the June number is a paper on "A Western University Library," by Mrs. Ada North, Librarian of the State University of Iowa. The two numbers contain besides several articles reprinted from various American journals.

THE June number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* contains the following articles:—"Die Erwerburg der Pfälzer Hofbibliothek," by Albert Duncker; "Bemerkungen über die Bestimmung des Alters von Handschriften," by Father Gabriel Meier; "Zum Schriftenaustausch der deutschen Universitaten," by Karl Dziatzko; and the Will of Walther von Goethe. The articles in the July number are:—"Zur Biographie und Bibliographie des Beatus Rhenanus," by Dr. G. Knod; "Ueber einen Katalog der Erfurter Universitäts-bibliothek aus dem 15. Jahrhundert," by H. O. Lange.

THE June number of the *Neuer Anzeiger* contains a translation of our cataloguing rules, and an account of the American Co-operative Index to Periodicals, with a suggestion that something similar should be attempted in Germany. The July number has a description of the "Incunabula of the Fürstenberg Library in Pürglitz (Bohemia);" an account of the Library of the Statistical Museum at Dresden; and a translation of the Abbé Cotton des Houssaye's discourse on the "Duties and Qualifications of a Librarian." This translation is taken from the English or rather American version, which was printed in *Book-Lore* for July. It had previously been printed in the *Bibliographer*. If the address was worth reproducing at all, we should have thought it much better to reprint it in the original Latin, which would be much more likely to preserve its "scholarly and courtly aroma."

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Barrow-in-Furness Free Public Library. Catalogue of the Books in the Reference and Lending Departments. Compiled by John Frowde, Chief Librarian. Barrow-in-Furness: 1885. 8vo, pp. [vii], 254, cloth back.

A neatly printed alphabetical catalogue of a collection of over 10,000 volumes. The contents of the more important works and magazines are set out.

Catalogue of the Library of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Fourth Edition. Compiled by John William Knapman, Librarian. London, 1885. 8vo. pp. 518.

A very carefully compiled catalogue of a valuable special library. Appended is the Catalogue of the Library of the North British Branch of the Society at Edinburgh, (fifth edition), pp. 474-518.

Borough of Portsmouth Free Public Library. Key to the Indicator. Arranged by Tweed D. A. Jewers, Librarian. Portsmouth, n.d. 8vo. pp. 83, clothback.

A list of 6,000 books, arranged in the order of the indicator-numbers. The cataloguing is very brief and the page printed in double columns. A few hints on "How to use the Public Library" are prefixed.

Borough of Portsmouth Free Public Library. Supplementary Catalogue of Recent Additions to the Reference and Lending Department. Compiled by Tweed D. A. Jewers, Librarian. Portsmouth, n.d.

An alphabetical catalogue. The contents of collected works are set out, and a notable feature is a list of leading articles in the Encyclopædia Britannica. There is at the end a list of Novels, Tales, &c., with the Magazine in which they originally appeared.

Manor of Aston Local Board. The Seventh Annual Report of the Free Libraries Committee. March 26th, 1884, to March 25th, 1885. Aston. 8vo. pp. 16, and wrapper.

The number of volumes in the Reference Library is 3,676, in the Lending Library 5,890. The issues were, in the former department 12,380, in the latter 77,219. The rate produced £541. 13s. 9d., and fines £31. 15s. 8d. A second course of Free Lectures was delivered during the winter, Mr. J. D. Mullins being one of the fourteen lecturers.

Brighton Free Library, Museum and Picture Gallery. Eleventh Annual Report. Brighton, 1885. 8vo. pp. 16.

The issues from the Library for the year were 29,303. The books have been re-arranged during the year, and a new catalogue is in course of preparation. There is no financial information.

Handsworth Public Library. Report of Committee for year ended 25th March, 1885. West Bromwich, 1885. 8vo. pp. 23.

This is the Fifth Annual Report and announces that the work of the library has been "satisfactory and progressive." The average daily number of visitors to the Reading Room exceeds 300. The number of volumes is now 7,673, an increase of 818,—973 being in the Reference Department. The issues for home reading were 41,404, being an increase of 1,608. The income from the rate was £423. 4s. 10d.

Borough of Leicester. The Fourteenth Annual Report of the Free Libraries Committee, 1885. Leicester. 8vo. pp. 34.

The issues of books from all departments were 213,678, the highest number yet recorded. Of these issues 52,561 were from the New Branch Library in Garendon Street. The proportion of Fiction issued from the Central Lending Department was 72 per cent. as against 77 per cent. last year. The Committee have asked the Town Council to increase the rate by one half-penny. The number of volumes is—in the Central Lending Department 14,989, Reference Library 7,793, Leicestershire Department 719, and at Garendon Street, 4,446. The financial statement shows that the half-penny rate produced at the Central Library £865. 10s. 8d., and at Garendon Street £100.

City and County of Newcastle upon-Tyne. Fourth Annual Report of the Public Libraries Committee, 1883-84. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1884. Large 8vo. pp. 40, and wrapper.

The issues from the Lending Libraries were 234,126, a decrease of 27,199 on the previous year, partly accounted for by the larger number of closed days and partly by a decrease of nearly 20,000 in the issues of Fiction. The stock in the Lending Libraries is 27,174 volumes, in the Reference Library 22,165. The number of visitors to the News Room was 490,922,

which number would, the Committee think, be doubled, if the News Room was larger. The Reference Books, including a local collection, are being catalogued on cards, Mr. Haggerston having, in the opinion of the Committee, "made a distinct advance upon anything that had previously been accomplished" in this way. The Report contains an account of the opening of the Library by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and a facsimile of the signatures of the Royal visitors, and also an account of the negociations which have resulted in the transfer of the Thomlinson Library to the Municipal Authorities, to be placed in the Public Library. The Educational Department makes a satisfactory Report. There is no financial information.

Borough of Reading. The Free Public Library and Museum. Second Annual Report, 1884-85. Reading. 8vo. pp. 24.

The Library now contains 13,132 volumes, of which 2,259 are in the Reference Library. The issues were—in the lending department 101,847, in the reference department 8,376. The number of visits to the Library and Reading Room is estimated at 589,000. It is noted that of the 170 newspapers and periodicals supplied to the library, 86 are presented. A Reading Local Collection is making progress. The visitors to the Museum were about 50,000. An Art Museum has been established during the year. There is no financial information.

Smethwick. Annual Report of the Free Library Committee to the Smethwick Local Board of Health, 1884-5. Smethwick. 8vo. pp. 14.

The issues during the year were 43,276, an increase of 3,868. The number of volumes in this Library is 5,126. A Branch Reading Room has been opened at the Six Ways, and it is proposed to open another at West Smethwick. The proportion of Fiction issued is stated at 60·86 as against 63·98 last year. A list of the year's additions is supplied. There is no financial information.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Introduction of the Art of Printing into Scotland. By Robert Dickson, F.S.A. Scot., Aberdeen: J. and J. P. Edmond and Spark, 1885. 8vo., pp. xvi. 98.

The impression of this book, which is beautifully printed on hand-made paper and very neatly bound, is limited to 500 copies on small paper and 50 copies on large paper It is illustrated by a number of fac-similes, and contains in an appendix a number of letters from Mons. A. Claudin of Paris, whose name will be familiar to our readers as having done so much to elucidate the early history of Scotch typography. Dr. Dickson's book contains an excellent account of his subject.

Year-Book of the Scientific and Learned Societies of Great Britain and Ireland: comprising Lists of the Papers read during 1884 before Societies engaged in fourteen departments of research with the names of their authors. Compiled from Official Sources. Second annual issue. London: Charles Griffin & Co., 1885. 8vo., pp. v. 231.

The new issue of this useful year-book differs from the first in supplying a list of the papers read during the past year before a great number of societies, while the list of foreign societies is dropped altogether. Whether all these long lists of papers, good, bad and indifferent, really deserve the space accorded to them is, perhaps, not quite certain, though they will, no doubt, in many cases prove of service to students. As we pointed out last year, the classification of the societies is not very satisfactory, and as it is purely arbitrary and some of the classes include several subjects, the words "fourteen departments" on the titlepage seem somewhat comical.

Katalog der Bibliothek des Börsenvereins der Deutschen Buchhändler. Leipzig: Verlag des Börsenvereins der Deutschen Buchhändler, 1885. 8vo., pp. xxxvi. 708.

This closely printed volume forms the first portion of the catalogue of the collections of the German Booksellers' Exchange. The library of the Exchange was founded in 1840, on occasion of the fourth centenary of the invention of printing. It has now become a special collection of so much importance that the present catalogue forms a bibliography of works relating to the book-arts, the book-sciences, and the book-trades. As such it deserves a fuller notice in another number. For the present we must be content with saying that the catalogue contains the titles, given with bibliographical accuracy, of 7,564 works, occupying, of course, a much larger number of volumes. The main heads under which the books are classified are:—(1) Introductory and General; (2) Book-manufacture; (3) History of Bookselling and Printing; (4) The Book-trade; (5) Books and the Book-trade legally considered; (6) The Knowledge and Love of Books; (7) Librarianship. There is a list of a small but interesting collection of manuscripts, and the catalogue is also furnished with an alphabetical index.

"Books on Shakespeare," by Mr. Sam. Timmins, forms No. 4 of the Birmingham Reference Library Lectures. The books in the Shakspeare Library form so remarkable a collection that they well deserved the honour of a special account in the series of lectures to which we have more than once referred. Our readers need no assurance from us of the care and sympathy with which Mr. Timmins has handled a subject which is peculiarly his own. The lecture affords an exceedingly interesting account of the treasures of the collection, and is followed by a list of the works mentioned, which are naturally but a small selection from the library.

The June number of the *Western Antiquary* commences a Fifth Series, and the editor announces that special attention will be given in the new volume to the Bibliography of Devonshire. A long list of promised contributions testifies to the support which the journal not only deserves but has secured. The June and July numbers contain instalments of an important contribution by the Rev. J. Ingle Dredge on "Devon Booksellers and Printers in the 17th and 18th centuries."

Under the name of "Mittheilungen aus der Stadtbibliothek zu Hamburg," F. Eyssenhardt and A. von Dommer are publishing some unprinted materials of interest. They include a careful bibliographical account of the original editions of Luther's books contained in the library, numbering 87, with an unprinted letter from Luther to his wife, contained in the Uffenbach-Wolf collection.

Mr. Henry Stevens has addressed to the *Athenæum* (July 4th) an account of a volume lately received by him "fresh from the manufactory of uniques, situated somewhere in the obscurities of abroad." It purports to be a first and separate Latin edition of the celebrated voyages of Cadamosto. Mr. Stevens says:—"The paper, the type, the binding, the scholarship, and the entire get-up of the imposition are worthy of the clever but distorted genius of the learned antiquary who presides at the manufactory. This same sort of thing has been done in London, and I can point out examples carefully preserved in the British Museum; but we are now manifestly outdone in this art."

The Spring number of the *Bulletin of the Boston Public Library* contains a list of all the publications in the Library on the subject of "French Spoliations" which have been specially enquired for since "the passage of an Act by Congress in January, 1885, which seems to promise a final settlement of these long pending claims." The "Index of Articles upon American Local History" is continued.

The *Harvard University Bulletin* for May continues the lists of the Kohl Collection of Early Maps and the Maps in the Publications of the Royal Geographical Society, and begins a Catalogue of the Dante Collection in the Harvard College and Boston Public Libraries."

Mr. P. A. Tiele, the well-known bibliographer, long Librarian of the Leyden University, now of the University of Utrecht, is, we learn, a grandson of the eminent Dutch historian, Nicholas Godfried Van Kampen, whose numerous works enriched the literature of Holland in the first half of the present century, and of whose life and writings an elaborate study is, we also understand, being made by Mr. Samuel Richard Van Campen, the author of the "Dutch in the Arctic Seas." The historian Van Kampen himself was also, early in his career, the Librarian of the Bibliotheca Thysania at Leyden.

Correspondence.

"Bibliography of the Fencing Art."

I shall feel very greatly obliged to any Member of the L.A.U.K. who will kindly favour me with slips of any works on Fencing, Swords, Rapiers, &c., not mentioned in the Bibliography published in Mr. Egerton Castle's new work on "Schools and Masters of Fence," as we are most anxious to make the Bibliography in the next edition as complete as possible, and to bring it down to the present date.

54, Torrington Square, London, W.C. Carl A. Thimm.

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The Library Chronicle.

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION AT PLYMOUTH.

THE Eighth Annual Meeting of the Library Association began at Plymouth on Tuesday, September 15th. At none of our Annual Meetings has more local interest been taken in our proceedings, and the splendid efforts made by the Local Committee and Mr. Wright secured an unprecedentedly large accession of new members. These included, besides those who had already joined us in anticipation of the meeting,[1] the following:—Right Hon. the Earl of Morley, Right Hon. Lord Revelstoke, Sir Wm. Hamilton, Bart., Hon. John Baring, Messrs. W. Copeland Borlase, M.P., F.S.A., E. Clarke, Q.C., M.P., Leonard Courtney, M.P., P. Stewart Macliver, M.P., John Bayly, Robert Bayly, T. S. Bayly, Rev. Thos. A. Bewes, Messrs. W. P. Blake, J. Kinton Bond, B.A., B.Sc., T. N. Brushfield, M.D., Robt. Burnard, W. F. Collier, J. G. Commin, Thomas Coud (Birmingham), A. R. Debnam, Alderman Wm. Derry, Godfrey H. Evans, R. Reynolds Fox, Jas. Gale, Ph.D., M.A., F.G.S., F.C.S., Thomas J. George (Northampton), E. J. Gouly (London), Rev. W. Hampshire, M.A., Captain E. H. Inskip, R.N., J.P., Messrs. Geo. Jago, John Kinsman, E. S. Lancaster, W. H. Luke, W. Luscombe, J.P., Joseph May, M.D., J.P., H. B. Mildmay, Fred. R. Nield, M.D., Charles Norrington, J.P., Jas. Penson, The Plymouth Co-operative and Industrial Society, Messrs. Popham Radford & Co., Chas. R. Prance, M.D., R. B. Prosser, Patent Office (London), Chas. Radford, Dan. Radford, John H. Radford, Geo. Redway, E. Richards, Rev. J. Erskine Risk, M.A., Messrs. W. S. Rooker, Fred. Row, M.D., Charles R. Rowe, J. Brooking Rowe, F.S.A., F.L.S., Danl. Slater, M.A., W. J. Square, F.R.C.S. W. C. Wade, C. H. Walter, James Ward (Leigh), R. J. Watts, F. J. Webb, M.C.P., F.G.S., R. Westington, H. S. Wilcocks, Rev. Prebendary C. T. Wilkinson, D.D., Messrs. Charles Williams (Birmingham), E. Windeatt, H. B. S. Woodhouse and J. W. Zaehnsdorf.

The proceedings were begun by a Meeting of the Council, which was held in the Western Law Courts at 10 a.m. At noon the Mayor of Plymouth received the Association at a Special Meeting of the Town Council. There was a large attendance of the Council, and the Chamber was completely filled by Members of the Association and visitors. The Mayor delivered an address of welcome to the Association, and then

[1] Ante, pp. 72 and 98.

called upon the Rev. Prebendary Wilkinson, Vicar of St. Andrew's, and Mr. P. S. Macliver, M.P., who spoke of the work of the Association. Mr. Chancellor Christie responded on behalf of the Association; after which the Mayor invited the Members to adjourn to luncheon at the Royal Hotel. After luncheon the Mayor proposed the toast of "The Library Association of the United Kingdom," which was acknowledged by Mr. R. Harrison and Mr. J. D. Mullins. Mr. Chancellor Christie proposed the toast of "Prosperity to Plymouth," which was responded to by Mr. R. C. Serpell; and Mr. P. S. Macliver, M.P., proposed the toast of "The Mayor and Corporation of Plymouth." The Mayor briefly responded, and Mr. Harrison proposed "The Health of the Local Secretary, Mr. W. H. K. Wright." The Mayor then proposed the toast of "The Press," which was acknowledged by Mr. A. Groser and Mr. H. Whitfeld.

After luncheon the business of the Meeting commenced, with the Mayor in the chair, and papers were read by Mr. Alderman Shelly, "Notes on the Libraries of the Three Towns (Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport)," and by Dr. T. N. Brushfield on "The Bibliography of the 'History of the World' and of the 'Remains of Sir Walter Raleigh.'" In consequence of the lateness of the hour at which the after-luncheon proceedings begun, the discussions on these papers was necessarily curtailed. After the sitting the Members proceeded to visit some of the institutions just described by Mr. Alderman Shelly, including the Plymouth Proprietary and Cottonian Library in Cornwall Street, the Library of the Plymouth Institution, Athenæum, the Free Public Library in Whimple Street, the Mechanics' Institute, Princess Square, and the Library of the Co-operative and Industrial Society in Cornwall Street.

At 5 p.m. the Members were invited by the Library Committee to the Devonport Free Public Library, where the Mayoress of Devonport was "At Home" from 5.30 to 7 p.m. The Mayor of Devonport (Mr. A. B. Hutchings) welcomed the Association in a graceful speech, to which Mr. Chancellor Christie replied. In the evening the Committee of the Plymouth Free Public Library gave a soirée at the Library in the old Guildhall.

On Wednesday morning the Report of the Council and the Treasurer's and Auditor's Reports were formally presented, and it was agreed to take the discussion on them on Thursday morning. Mr. James Yates read a paper on "Our Town Library, its Success and Failures," in which he traced the development of Free Libraries, and showed how in Leeds this development had been marked by a corresponding development of the subscription library. He trusted that with the enfranchisement of the agricultural labourer and the establishment of county boards, they would see a series of county libraries arising under the Public Libraries Acts. Mr. J. Potter Briscoe read a paper on "Libraries for the Young," and Mr. W. H. K. Wright a paper on "Our Boys; what do they Read?" These papers were followed by an interesting discussion. At noon the Association was invited to attend the opening of a very large and interesting Exhibition of Books, Binding and Library appliances, which had been organized by the Local Committee, and which will remain open for some time. Mr. Alderman Shelly on their behalf invited the Mayor to declare the Exhibition open.

In the afternoon Mr. W. May read a paper on "The Printing of Library Catalogues," and Mr. Silvanus Trevail discussed the "Extension of the Free Library System to Rural Districts." The Rev. Canon Moor of Truro, described "The

Libraries of the City of Truro," including the Cornwall County Library, the Diocesan Library, and the Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.

At the close of the sitting the Members were conducted over the Guildhall by Mr. Wright, and then proceeded to Saltram, where they were hospitably entertained by the Earl of Morley. In the evening the Local Committee received the Association at a soirée in the Exhibition Building.

On Thursday morning the Chair was taken by Mr. J. D. Mullins, V.P., and the Reports were considered. On the Report of the Council, Mr. Mullins said he thought that there were several things upon which they might congratulate themselves. Their membership was very rapidly increasing and they seemed to be justifying their existence. He was glad to notice that progress was being made in the matter of the examination of library assistants. He hailed with pleasure in the Report the reference made to the progress of the free library movement throughout the country. The Deputation to the Treasury was also worthy of notice; and it was important that the smaller libraries in particular should have some such organization as theirs, by which they could make their wants and wishes known. Mr. Tedder and Mr. Tonks called attention to the financial state of the Association, and on the motion of the Secretary the further consideration of the Report was then adjourned. The Treasurer's and Auditors' Report was then adopted on the motion of Mr. Harrison and Mr. Tonks.

Mr. W. H. K. Wright read some "Notes on Various Libraries in Devon and Cornwall; with some particulars of old Parochial Libraries at Barnstaple, Crediton and Totness," and also read (in the absence of the writer) Mr. Edward Parfitt's "Notes on the Library of the Devon and Exeter Institution, Exeter."

The Chairman called upon Mr. W. Archer to read his paper, "Remarks on Classification;" and in the absence of the writers, the Secretary read Mr. J. B. Bailey's paper "On Classification for Scientific and Medical Libraries," and Mr. J. Brownbill's paper, "Science and Art: a Theory of Library Classification." These papers were followed by a long discussion, ranging over the whole question of classification and the comparative merits of classified and dictionary catalogues, which continued until the close of the sitting. On resuming in the afternoon the chair was taken by Mr. Chancellor Christie, who called upon Professor F. Pollock to read a paper "On the Alpine Club Library." Mr. H. R. Tedder then read a paper on "Proposals for a Bibliography of National History." A paper by Mr. W. Roberts on "Publishers' Subterfuges in the 18th Century," concluded the business of the day.

At 4 o'clock the Members proceeded by special steamer to Mount Edgcumbe, where they were hospitably received by the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, who conducted them over the gardens, grounds and deer-park. In the evening the Association was entertained at a conversazione by the President of the Plymouth Institution.

On Friday morning the chair was taken by Mr. Chancellor Christie, and Mr. John Taylor read a paper on "Bristol Libraries, Historical and Descriptive," and was followed by the Rev. W. S. Lach-Szyrma with a paper on "The Libraries of the Land's End District, including Penzance." The last paper on the programme was "Free Libraries from a Bookseller's Point of View," by Mr. W. Downing, who combatted the idea, not uncommonly conceived, that the effect of the growth of libraries has been injurious to the bookseller. Each of these papers was followed by a discussion.

The afternoon sitting was devoted to private business, Mr. J. D. Mullins occupying

the chair. The consideration of the Report of the Council was resumed, and the opinion of the Meeting was taken on several matters discussed in the Report. It was decided to impose an entrance fee of half-a-guinea upon new Members, and to raise the subscription for a Life-member from five guineas to eight. The Dublin resolution authorizing the Treasurer to pay the railway fares of country Members of Council attending Special General Councils was rescinded. The Chairman then on behalf of the Council brought forward a motion, which was seconded by the Treasurer, to the effect :—

"That the Association having considered a proposition made by certain of its Members to form a Company to carry on the *Library Chronicle,* approve of the transfer of the Chronicle to the proposed Company, and that the Council be authorized to arrange with the Company for the publication of the Transactions and Proceedings in the Chronicle."

The proposition excited some discussion, but after fuller explanations had been asked and received, the motion was carried with only two dissentients.

A motion, brought forward by Mr. Thomas Formby, for the purpose of altering the constitution as to admit a class of Student-members paying a reduced subscription was discussed, and finally referred to the Council, with instructions that it should, if practicable, be carried into operation. It was also left to the Council to arrange the place of Meeting for next year, and it was resolved that the Annual Meeting in 1887 be held at Birmingham.

The ballot for the election of officers for 1885-6, resulted as follows :—President [no nomination]; Vice-Presidents [all re-elected]. London Members of Council: W. R. Douthwaite, Librarian, Gray's Inn; J. B. Bailey, Resident Librarian, Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; J. W. Bone; R. Garnett, Assistant-Keeper of Printed Books, British Museum; Professor F. Pollock, Hon. Librarian, Alpine Club; Henry Stevens; H. R. Tedder, Librarian, Athenæum Club; H. B. Wheatley. Country Members of Council: W. Archer, Librarian, National Library of Ireland; F. T. Barrett, Librarian, Mitchell Library, Glasgow; J. P. Briscoe, Librarian, Free Libraries, Nottingham; H. T. Folkard, Librarian, Free Library, Wigan; W. J. Haggerston, Librarian, Public Libraries, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Rev. J. C. Hudson, Librarian, Mechanics' Institute, Horncastle; J. Y. W. MacAlister, Librarian, Leeds Library, Leeds; C. Madeley, Librarian, The Museum, Warrington; W. May, Librarian, Free Library, Birkenhead; C. E. Scarse, Librarian, Birmingham Library; W. H. K. Wright, Borough Librarian, Plymouth; J. Yates, Librarian, Public Library, Leeds. Treasurer: Robert Harrison, Librarian, London Library. Hon. Secretary: Ernest C. Thomas (late Librarian, Oxford Union). The scrutineers were Mr. J. W. Knapman and Mr. G. Redway.

The business of the Meeting was concluded by the usual votes of thanks. Upon this occasion the votes included the Mayor of Plymouth, and the Members of the Local Committee, the Committees of the various institutions which had offered hospitality to the Association, Lord Morley, Lord Mount Edgcumbe, Admiral Phillimore, and the Mayor of Devonport, and the officers of the Association. The votes were acknowledged by the Mayor, Mr. R. C. Serpell and the officers, and the formal proceedings then terminated.

In the evening the Members of the Association dined together, with Mr. Chancellor Christie in the chair. The toasts included "The Queen," "The Lord High

Steward of Plymouth (H.R.H. The Prince of Wales), and the Royal Family," "The Army and Navy," "The Library Association," "Literature, Science and Art," "Prosperity to the Town of Plymouth," "The Mayor of Plymouth," "The Local Committee and Officers," and "The Chairman."

Several excursions, marine and otherwise, had been arranged for Saturday, but the state of the weather on Saturday morning made it impossible to carry them out. This was the only subject for discontent in connection with the Meeting, which in all other respects may compare with the most successful of our Annual Meetings. For this our warmest acknowledgments are due to our Plymouth friends, and in particular to the untiring exertions of Mr. Wright.

II.—THE PROGRESS OF COLONIAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

By James R. Boosé.

New South Wales.

The next Public Library of chief importance in Australia is the Sydney Free Public Library. It was established somewhat later than that of Melbourne, and has not made such progress as that of the sister Colony.

Parliamentary provision was made by the Legislature of New South Wales in the year 1862 for the foundation of the Sydney Public Library, when the sum of £25,000 was voted for the purpose. It was not until 1869, however, that the institution was formally opened by His Excellency the Earl of Belmore, then Governor of the Colony. During that year the Australian Library and Literary Institution offered their collection of books to the Government, which consisted of about 16,000 volumes, and was purchased for the sum of £1,500, thus forming the nucleus of the present Sydney Free Public Library. At the same time the Australian Library building was leased by the Government for one year at a rental of £300, with the option of purchase within the year for £3,600. The negotiations having been concluded, the Public Library was opened on the 30th September, 1867.

In the few foregoing words the history of the foundation of the Sydney Free Public Library is summed up.

Immediately after the opening of the Library, although there was a list of the books of the former Institution in existence, it was considered most incomplete, and steps were taken by the Librarian to re-arrange the books in accordance with such a classification as he found would more readily meet the convenience of the public.

The first trustees were appointed during 1870, and comprised nine of the most eminent men, whose names are well-known in the history of New South Wales. Their first work consisted of representing to the Colonial Secretary the necessity of having at once placed at their disposal any funds that might be available for the purchase of books, and the expediency of an Act of Incorporation and Endowment. Great care was exercised in purchasing books for the Library, and in no case were orders given for the supply of any books unless with the sanction of at least three members of the Board. The necessity and value of this public Institution soon became apparent, for in the report for 1870-71 the trustees stated, "although the Institution is situated

disadvantageously for the general convenience of the public, so far removed as it is from the main thoroughfares of the city, the number of students who have visited the Library sufficiently justifies the wise liberality of the Legislature in its foundation and maintenance."

The attendance of visitors to the close of 1871 was for

1869 (three months)	17,006
1870	59,786
1871	60,165

showing a daily average of 202 persons.

After withdrawing various works from those purchased from the Australian Library to the number of 2,120, the ascertained number of books at the opening of the Public Library was 13,937, which had increased to 20,836 at the end of 1871.

During the latter year a system of friendly exchanges was commenced with the Melbourne Public Library.

In 1872 the progress was very much less than the trustees would have desired, and endeavoured to procure, but refraining from the assumption of any authority that had not received the sanction of Parliament, they were unable to purchase new books until they had ascertained the sum placed at their disposal by the Legislature, which was granted late in the year to the amount of £500. The donations, however, during this year numbered 1,650 volumes, and the number of visitors was 48,817, a total considerably less than the previous year, but at the same time showing that the Library was largely made use of by persons seeking the material of culture and enjoying the means placed at their disposal by the Legislature in acquiring a variety of knowledge of which the ultimate benefit to the country is at least as certain as the immediate use to the individual. In commenting upon the falling off in the number of visitors during the year under review, the late Dr. Badham attributed it to the care taken by the trustees in the withdrawal from the Library of works of an ephemeral character, and which were considered unsuitable for such an institution, the Library then presenting few temptations to the idle and frivolous; the removal of over 2,000 works of fiction in 1871 unquestionably diminished the attractions of the institution in the eyes of those who employed it for less worthy purposes than it was intended to effect.

In 1873 the number of volumes had increased to 23,445 and 1,675 pamphlets. During the year what would have been a valuable addition to the Library was lost by the wreck of the Royal Adelaide, which vessel had on board numerous cases of books which had been carefully selected and purchased in England. In consideration, however, of this loss, a sum was placed on the supplementary Estimates of the Legislature to cover the loss sustained. The average number of books daily in use was 483, and the number of readers during the year 76,659, showing an increase over the previous year of nearly 30,000 persons. The establishment of two district libraries worked and conducted under one head—the one to be a Free Reference Library and the other a lending branch—took place in 1874, thus making the Library a powerful instrument in the great cause of public education.

The Library had now been established five years, and the work of checking the number of books and ascertaining their condition was undertaken; the result of the enumeration was the loss of two small volumes, amounting in value to 1s. 3d. So satisfactory a result was, no doubt, owing to the excellent system of record and check adopted by the librarian, and to the great judgment and zeal that officer had bestowed

upon the institution ever since its commencement. Passing now to the year 1877, the number of books had increased to 32,753, and the Library was visited by 113,760 persons. 1,225 persons obtained tickets for the lending branch, and 10,968 volumes were issued. A full catalogue was published during the year, and consisted of a 4to volume of 1,008 pages, and contained all the books placed in the Library from its foundation up to the 31st December, 1876.

Although the progress of the Library was not so rapid as that of Melbourne, still the trustees looked forward with confidence to great success attending the institution when a larger building, and one better suited to the purposes of study, should supersede the one then in use.

In 1879 the Library was visited by the largest number of readers who had ever sought its benefits since its foundation, the total attendance being 152,036, being an increase of 34,089 over the previous year. This great increase was, no doubt, partly owing to the Sydney International Exhibition which was held during the year, as during the following year the numbers had again decreased, only reaching a total of 134,462, but, nevertheless, it exhibited a proof of the increasing usefulness of the institution and of the growing interest of the public in its existence.

The Library was opened on Sundays as an experiment during the year 1878, but the practice was very little appreciated, so that (in 1883), as it was thought no real benefit was conferred upon the public, the trustees were of opinion that it might without disadvantage be discontinued; but recently it has again been thrown open for a few hours on Sunday afternoons.

The Reference Library contains all the principal works of reference that the funds placed at the disposal of the trustees have enabled them to procure, among which are many rare and costly books that it would be difficult to replace or find in any market.

In concluding this brief account of the Public Library of New South Wales, which is next in importance to that of Melbourne, and far surpasses many in the Mother Country, the following extract from the excellent Handbook of Messrs. Gordon & Gotch shows its present state, which can only prove of what value it is as one of the institutions of the Colony which promotes the better education of the people, and provides intellectual amusement for all classes of the community.

"The Public Library had on January 1st, 1884, 59,554 volumes in various departments of literature. During 1883 the institution was open on 357 days for the Reference Library, 346 days for the lending branch, and was visited by 155,431 persons. On week days the average number of volumes used was—Reference Library, 614; lending branch, 243; on Sundays the figures respectively were 167 and 42."

The lending branch, which I have previously referred to, had a total of 18,188 volumes.

There is urgent need at the present time of more space, and the sum of £175,000. has been voted for new buildings. A suitable site has been secured in the heart of the city, where a handsome building is being erected in every way suited to the wants of an institution which assists individual study and intellectual recreation.

In the country districts are 81 Mechanics' Institutes or Public Libraries. These Libraries are supplied by the Sydney Public Library with cases of books monthly. The books selected for the purpose are of a high class of literature, and, as such, are beyond the means of small libraries with small incomes to procure for general reading. Time does not allow me to give the details of any but those libraries in the chief cities; but

on a future occasion, no doubt, the progress of the Libraries of each Colony would form subjects for valuable papers for submission to this Association.

Owing to the satisfactory condition of the libraries of the Colony there is no reason to doubt that the necessity for widening the influence and enlarging the usefulness of them will be regarded by the Colonists of New South Wales as a great national concern.

South Australia.

The system of Public Libraries in South Australia is quite of recent date, the Public Library Act having come into operation only as recently as July 1st, 1884; but it may, nevertheless, be of interest to trace the establishment of that which provided for the literary wants of the population in the absence of a recognized public institution, and I feel sure the early history of the first institution of the kind cannot fail to prove of general interest.

The establishment of South Australia took place on August 15th, 1834, and exactly a fortnight afterwards the South Australian Literary and Scientific Association was founded in London. The specified objects of the Association were "the cultivation and diffusion of useful knowledge throughout the Colony." The Association selected for transmission to the Colony a library of 117 volumes, most of which treated upon the Australian, Polynesian, and American Colonies, or related to statistics of Great Britain. It is also of interest to find that these books were packed in the iron chest which contained the charter or constitution of the newly made Colony.

After the arrival of this small library a Mechanics' Institute was formed. This association held its meetings in a small wooden shanty about 12 feet square, and it is stated that lectures were given to "crowded audiences in this immense building." The additions to the library were increased by donations which, however, were very rare. In 1844 the South Australian Subscription Library, a society independent of the Mechanics' Institute, was established, and four years later these two libraries were amalgamated. One of the chief objects of the new society was the formation of a circulating library. The combined libraries were moved into larger quarters, when a general reading room was also established.

The two societies having thus become amalgamated it would have been supposed that their career would have been one of uninterrupted prosperity. Not so, however; for from some unaccountable cause the position of the institution appears in the space of about five years to have become one of hopeless muddle. The books in the library were in a most dilapidated condition, many volumes had been lost, and the greater number of those that remained were coverless, or nearly so, and much mutilated. Owing to this failure of the institution, petitions were made to Parliament to take over the properties of the institution, but nothing was immediately done. During 1854 the appointment of a Select Committee to consider and report upon the propriety of the introduction of a Bill to establish a National Institution was moved in the Legislature. A Select Committee was appointed, had various sittings, and finally drew up a report, in which it recommended the formation of such an Institution. The Committee recommended that the establishment should be styled "The South Australian Institute," and that a Bill calling it into existence should be at once introduced; but a period of two years elapsed—viz. 1856—before the Bill was passed by the Council and received the Governor's assent. The total value of the books in the Library at this time was estimated at £1,200.

The Act provided for the establishment of a library, partly public, partly subscription. The management was to consist of a Board of six Governors, of whom three were to be appointed by the Governor, and the other three were to be elected by the societies incorporated with the institute, the subscribers to the Library being regarded as an incorporated body.

During the same year the South Australian Library and Mechanics' Institute was dissolved, and the library handed over by the trustees of that institution to the new Board, and the six Governors were appointed in the year 1859, when the Adelaide Philosophical Society and the South Australian Society of Arts were incorporated with the new institute. These societies having appointed one Governor each, the Board of six Governors provided for in the Act of 1856 was complete—that was, three nominated by the Governor, one by the South Australian Institute, and two by the above-named societies. Whilst referring to the Governors of the Institute, I might mention that in 1879 a short Act was passed, giving the Adelaide University power to elect two Governors, thus raising the total number to nine, which state of matters continued until the coming into operation of the Public Library Act.

The original building having become too limited in size, a new building was erected and completed, and thrown open by Sir Charles Cooper on January 29, 1861. As is too often the case with similar institutions, the rapid development of its resources had not been sufficiently considered in the case of the South Australian Institute, for in 1865 we find the Board of Governors again pressing the Government for increased accommodation. This, however, was not provided until some years later.

Nothing of very great moment attracted attention during the next few years, except to remark that the number of books steadily increased, and the value of the institution was more recognized. In the year 1876 the total number of books in the library was 20,463. The want of a suitable building continued to press upon the Governors, and from their report for 1878-79 I extract the following :—

The present building was completed and fully occupied in the early part of 1861, but no long time elapsed before the Board foresaw a necessity for increased accommodation, and in their report for 1863-64 they referred to it as a matter which would have to be seriously considered without delay. In January, 1865, they first addressed the Government on the subject, and they succeeded so far that a sketch plan for an enlargement of the building was prepared by the Government Architect, and laid before the House of Assembly in 1866, and the sum of £1000 was voted on the Estimates for 1867 as the first instalment of a vote for the proposed enlargement; the intention then being that detailed plans should be prepared so that Parliament might be asked to make suitable provision for the work on the Estimates for 1868. The Government, however, were unable to do so, and instead of receiving the expected grant, the Board had to submit to a reduction of their grant for annual expenses. In 1871 petitions, signed by nearly 4000 persons in favour of an enlargement of the building, were presented to both Houses of Parliament, and motions in favour of such a course were passed. During 1872 a vote of £3000 was passed as a first instalment towards the cost of a new building. Nothing further (with the exception of laying a foundation stone in 1873, which was taken up in 1876) was done until 1877, when the Board had finally decided as far as they were concerned for all matters of detail connected with the buildings. In 1878 the building was commenced, but during these protracted delays the difficulty of providing accommodation for the Circulating and Free

Reference Libraries, which had been established in connection with the library, was increasingly felt, so that the Government were requested and consented to erect a temporary Book Room at the back of the existing building. In 1878 the number of books had increased to 22,501, a very slow increase compared with the neighbouring Colonies of Victoria and New South Wales.

The Copyright Act was adopted in South Australia during 1878, with provisions similar to those in force in the Mother Country; and also during this year the Institute was opened to the public on Sundays, in consequence of the adoption by the House of Assembly of the following Resolution—"That it is desirable that the Reading Room of the Adelaide Institute should be opened and available to the public between the hours of 1 and 6 p.m. on every Sunday, and that it is desirable as regards all other Institutes, that it be in the discretion of the majority of the committee of each Institute whether their Institute shall or shall not be opened on Sundays." This motion was carried by a considerable majority. The Board of the Institute approved of the decision arrived at by the House, and they stated "that though it was a matter on which different opinions exist, the Board trust that they will prove right in their anticipations, that the change in question will be found to be a public benefit."

In 1879 the foundation stone of the present Public Library Buildings was laid by His Excellency Sir W. Jervois, and the erection and fitting up of the west wing of the building is now completed.

In 1880 the number of books in the library reached the total of 24,113.

As in the case of New South Wales a prominent feature during this year was a resolution to pay special attention to collecting books on or connected with Australia. This unquestionably should form a prominent feature in all public libraries in Australasia in the same manner as the Plymouth and other public libraries are making collections of all works relating to their respective counties. I may here state that the number of volumes issued during 1880-81 was 63,725, as compared with 57,279 in 1879-80.

Referring now to the present state of this library, the latest available statistics show that the total number of books on the 30th June, 1884 amounted to 27,015, and the number of volumes circulated during the year was 67,031.

A few words now with reference to the Country Libraries of South Australia. The work done for these libraries has always formed an important part of the duties of the Board of the parent institution, the increase in the number and size of these valuable educational agencies having been both steady and rapid. Although the statistics of the Country Institutes have been published annually, it will perhaps be quite sufficient to show the rapid development of the Public Library movement, if I state that in 1859 there were twenty institutes connected with the Adelaide Institution, and in 1883 this number had risen to 113 institutes.

A special feature of the South Australian Institute has always been the regular circulation of book-boxes among the Country Institutes, and whilst in 1859 only 8 boxes were circulated amongst the twenty institutes then affiliated, 157 boxes containing 4825 volumes were circulated during 1883 amongst 116 institutes. It will thus be seen how extensively the importance of the connection with the parent institution had been recognized.

The following remarks of Sir William Jervois at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Public Library in 1879 are quite applicable to the present time. "The South Australian Institute has already done a good work. A glance at its past

history is sufficient to prove this." . . . "But whilst expressing my admiration of the progress of the Colony, I cannot disguise from myself the fact that you have hitherto in Adelaide been behindhand in the creation of institutions, such as this Public Library, which provide for the self-education of the people. I confidently hope that the blessings arising from the diffusion of knowledge in all its manifold forms amongst the people of this Province will keep pace with their advancement in numbers and in wealth."

In concluding their final report to the Governor of the Colony, the trustees of the South Australian Institute wrote as follows: "Like all human experiences, the Institute has had in it much of doubt, anxiety and disappointment; but it cannot be denied that the South Australian Institute has done good work in its day, and has been instrumental in scattering the seeds of intellectual cultivation and development far and wide over the Colony. The Board now hand over their trust to their successors, with the earnest hope and full confidence that in the future, with a higher prestige and larger means, they will realize to the utmost the ends for which the South Australian Institute was established in 1856.

I now turn to the Colony of Queensland.

Queensland.

In Queensland, the youngest of the Australian Colonies, there is no Free Library; but there are throughout the Colony 34 institutions in the different towns under the title of Schools of Art, Mechanics' Institutes, Miners' Institutes, and Public Reading Rooms, most of which have libraries more or less valuable. The Brisbane School of Arts is an important scholastic institution, and possesses a valuable library. Throughout the Colony, however, the want of public institutions is much felt, and there is no doubt that, combined with the rapid progress being made in all departments of education, the question of Public Libraries will claim the earnest attention of the Government. In the existing libraries there are at present 50,000 volumes.

Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Public Library was incorporated on the 14th October, 1870, being entirely free to the public, and being supported by the municipal authorities. It has continued to make satisfactory progress since its foundation, the trustees stating in their first report that their anticipations as to the due appreciation by the citizens and visitors of the advantages presented by the institution had been more than realised, no less that 25,675 persons having visited the library. In order to increase the value of this still young institution, the trustees, at its foundation, entered into communication with the various literary and scientific bodies in Europe and elsewhere with a view to the enrichment of the library, and met with great success; the application being responded to most cordially, and many donations being received.

Previous to the date above-mentioned there existed a library, which was supported partly by a Government grant and partly by subscription. This was founded in the year 1849 by Sir William Denison, the Governor of the Colony, who placed a sum of £100 on the Estimates for that year. The library was increased by 1,900 volumes in 1851 by the purchase of the library of Mr. Bichem, the Colonial Secretary. In 1854 the annual grant was increased to £200 by the Legislature, and five years later the grant was fixed at £200, and £200 more on condition that an equal sum was raised by

subscription, and the library thrown open to the public. In 1866, however, a time of depression for the Colony, the Government grant ceased altogether; and so, with the loss of its income, the library ceased to exist. Out of this first attempt to found a National Institution sprang the present Public Library, the books contained in the first library having been stowed away, and so formed the nucleus of the existing institution—which, as previously mentioned, was opened free to the public in 1870.

The trustees consisting of eight (four appointed by the Governor in Council, and four by the City Corporation), annually report to the Government.

The library is open to the public on all days of the year from 10 a.m. till 9·30 p.m., except on Sundays, when it is open from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m.

The number of volumes at present contained in the library is 10,000, and in addition to the very valuable collection of works of reference and general literature, the majority of the English magazines and newspapers are also to be found on the table of the Reading Room.

There are also, in addition to the Public Library of Hobart, 30 similar institutions distributed throughout the Colony containing 40,000 volumes. The Government grant to these institutions for last year amounted to £200 for the Hobart Library, and £700 for the Country Libraries.

Steady Progress is being made throughout the Colony in promoting the Establishment of Public Libraries upon an extensive scale, to which all classes may have free access in the principal centres of population.

New Zealand.

In New Zealand there are only five Free Public Libraries. These have only been established recently, and at present contain about 30,000 volumes; but in almost every town throughout the Colony is to be found a Mechanics' Institute or similar institution for the benefit of the inhabitants. By the most recent returns there were 225 such institutions, which furnished returns to the Registrar-General.

The following statistics will show the number of institutions at present existing in each province of the Colony, and also the number of volumes in their libraries:—

	No. of Institutions.	No. of Vols.
Auckland	60	38,638.
Taranaki	5	1963.
Wellington	12	17,385.
Hawkes Bay	13	6973.
Marlborough	5	3531.
Nelson	19	17,647.
Westland	8	4244.
Canterbury	47	51,836.
Otago	56	56,303.

The Public Library of Auckland is the largest of its kind in the Colony possessing, as it now does, over 10,000 volumes. Sir George Grey, who has always evinced the greatest interest in the Public Library question, has presented a valuable collection of books and manuscripts to the above-named library.

In Canterbury and Dunedin are Free Public Libraries of great importance, but still in their infancy. With the rapid growth of these busy cities the urgent need of large and commodious Public Libraries is now becoming more and more apparent.

The Parliamentary Library at Wellington contains a valuable collection of the papers of the Legislature dating from its establishment, in addition to a good collection of standard works, which may be consulted by the public on the introduction of a member of the House of Representatives. The Government is using every effort to enrich this library both by presentation and purchase, and the Agent-General for the Colony in London is continually forwarding cases of carefully selected works for the use of the public frequenting the library.

During the year 1883 the sum of £6000 was voted by Parliament for distribution among the Public Libraries of the Colony.

Turning now to our South African Colonies, the Public Library movement has taken a firm hold upon the residents of those Colonies. Although, taking them generally, they are smaller in extent than the Libraries of the great Colonies just referred to, they are nevertheless of great importance, especially that of Cape Town, and therefore command our attention.

Cape Colony.

The South African Public Library at Cape Town was established by a Government Proclamation dated on the 20th March, 1818, which directed that the affairs of the institution should be vested in a committee. For the purpose of maintaining the library a unique system was adopted, viz., that every cask of wine passing through the Cape Town Market should be subject to the imposition of a certain charge. The library was opened to the public in 1822. In 1828 the Government repealed the wine tax, and in so doing withdrew its contribution towards the institution, and in 1830 the management of it was entrusted to a committee, to be elected by the subscribers. From May, 1829, when the circulation of books commenced, up to 1862, the institution was almost exclusively supported by its subscribers; but since the latter time it has received an annual grant from Parliament of £600, which amount it receives at the present time. A number of books have been collected by means of purchase and donations, and at the present time the library contains about 40,000 volumes, embracing every branch of science and literature. In connection with the Public Library there are also three valuable and distinct collections of books, viz., the Dessinian Collection, the Grey Collection, and the Porter Collection.

The Dessinian Collection consists mainly of books, with a few manuscripts and paintings, bequeathed to the Colony in 1761 by Mr. Joachim Nicholaas von Dessin, and its management is vested in three trustees, who are elected by the Consistory of the Dutch Reformed Church from its own members. The number of volumes in this collection amounts to about 4,500, in the Latin, German, French and Dutch languages.

The Grey Collection, which forms the most valuable part of the South African Public Library, contains about 5,000 volumes, which were presented by Sir George Grey, a former Governor of the Colony (1854-61), and now resident in New Zealand. The books are rare and valuable. There are about 130 manuscripts, mostly on vellum or parchment, some of them of the 10th century. A large number of these manuscripts are very handsomely illuminated; one among many others being a missal which belonged to Margaret de Valois. Some vulgates are splendidly written, and there is also a copy of Cæsar's Bellum Gallicum and Livy. There are two very valuable Dante manuscripts. This collection also boasts of having one of the earliest copies of the Roman de la Rose, a Hebrew Bible of the 13th century with Moorish embellishments,

and two very old maps of the World, one dated 1489, and the other 1546. There is also a very old Flemish manuscript of Sir J. Mandeville's Travels. The second part is a collection of early printed English books. The collection of the native languages of Africa, Polynesia and New Zealand, is the most important of its kind, and includes manuscripts by the first missionaries (such as Van der Kemp, Schenelen), and unpublished letters and vocabularies of Livingstone. The Grey Collection being of such value and importance is placed under the sole care of the Chief Librarian.

The third collection, that which is termed the Porter Collection, was purchased out of the funds raised for the purpose of procuring a life-size painting of the late Hon. William Porter, which it was intended to place in the library in recognition of the many and valuable services rendered by him to the Colony. The object of the subscribers having been defeated by Mr. Porter's disinclination to sit for his portrait, it was decided to expend the amount subscribed in the purchase of standard works, to be placed in the library and known as the Porter Collection.

It is worthy of mention that the bookcases and fittings which adorn the library hall, the gallery, and the committee room, have been provided by the liberality of Dr. Hiddingh, who also recently presented the institution with a donation of £400 for the purpose of standard works of reference.

The next library of importance in the Cape Colony is that of Port Elizabeth, which was established in 1848. The library building is contained in the Town Hall, and by the latest returns contains 15,000 volumes.

In addition to these two libraries, there are altogether in the Cape Colony 39 libraries receiving grants from the Government to the extent of £10,000; and the total number of volumes contained in these libraries is 110,000.

Natal.

The Colony of Natal next claims our attention. To the traveller in this Colony the want of Public Libraries immediately presents itself, for throughout the whole Colony there are only five public institutions possessing libraries for the general use of the inhabitants. These are to be found at Pietermaritzburg, Durban, Pinetown, Weenen and Richmond.

The Public Library at Pietermaritzburg, the chief town, was established in the year 1851, and during the past thirty years has been much appreciated and consulted. This library was originally the Mechanics' Institute, but of late years it has become known as the Natal Society, and at the present time has adopted the title of Public Library. It contained on the 30th June, 1884, 4,675 volumes; and, as evidence of the need of such institutions, there was a daily attendance during last year of 300, and an issue of 16,673 books and 9,145 magazines.

At Durban the Public Library contains about 4,000 volumes, and all the chief English newspapers and magazines.

The Public Library at Richmond contains 600 volumes, having only been established recently.

West Indies.

In the West Indies the Public Library movement has not made much progress.

The Public Library of Trinidad is, however, an important institution, and possesses 12,000 volumes. The library is under the control of a Committee of Management,

chosen by the Governor and the Subscribers in the proportion of one Member to every £50 of contribution. In the year 1856 the stock of books consisted of 2887 volumes, thus showing an increase up to the present time of 9000 volumes. The library is open from 7 till 10 in the morning, and from 6 till 11 in the evening.

The Public Library of the Bahamas contains a valuable collection of legal works, and about 10,000 admirably selected volumes.

In Jamaica the Public Library is supplied by the Jamaica Institute, which is one of the most promising, as it is one of the latest works of the Government. It was constituted by law, which created a Board styled "the Board of Governors of the Institute of Jamaica," and consisted of seven members appointed by the Governor, their duties being to establish and maintain an institution, comprising a Library, Reading Room and Museum. The law relating to the institute transferred to the institute the library of the House of Assembly, together with a commodious building. The new institution has made great progress since its organization, but the collection of books is fast outgrowing the space placed at the disposal of the Committee. In addition to the volumes of scientific, historical and general literature a large collection of light literature, embracing popular works and those of the standard novelists exists and is periodically added to, and the quarterly and other leading reviews and periodicals of the day are regularly obtained from Europe and America.

The Library is virtually a Public Library, the public being admitted on obtaining orders from the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, Members of the Legislative Council, the Judges, Heads of Government Departments and Members of Municipal Boards. The library is well supported throughout the island, and several branches have been established in different parts of the country to which are sent periodically from the Kingston library a large number of volumes of solid and modern literature.

In conclusion I can only hope that this paper will serve the purpose for which it was written, viz., to place before the public of the Mother Country a true account of the principal public libraries of our vast and magnificent Colonies. It is scarcely possible to overrate the advantages of these institutions, inasmuch as in addition to their existing collections of books, every effort is made to enrich them by such valuable works of reference as are too costly to be purchased privately, and are only presented to libraries having a recognized status. It is therefore most essential that the various Colonial Governments should provide means annually for their proper maintenance and not allow, as is too often the case, the municipal authorities to have to defray the cost out of the public rates. I fear I have detained you too long, so I will not dwell longer upon the subject which to me has for many years past been one of great interest. Judging from the development of our Colonial Public Libraries, it cannot be doubted that there is a great future before them, a future undreamed of by the originators of the movement, amongst whom I must pay a public tribute to the late Sir Redmond Barry. I have now only to re-echo that sentiment of loyalty, which it is hoped may increase as years pass by, of drawing closer together those ties of mutual affection, that should always distinguish the relations between this Country and her vast and magnificent Colonies.

A CATALOGUE OF BIRMINGHAM BOOKS.

THE appearance of this portion of the new Birmingham Reference Library Catalogue, now in course of printing, is somewhat opportune, coming as it does just after so much has been said and written about the value of "Local Collections" and the obligation that each Free Library is under to fulfil its share in this important part of their work. First and foremost will come the collection of all that bears in any way on the past and present history of the *Town*, and then such a work will naturally extend itself to matters where the county is concerned. Of the extreme usefulness of such Collections there cannot be the least doubt. Even if the days for publishing handsome Town and County Histories were past and over, such a publication as the one before us will help in no small degree to revive the taste and spirit needful for such undertakings.

At any rate as a small amount of example is better than a quantity of precept, so will such a work as this of which we speak give an impetus to this most valuable form of compilation. Any one can expatiate on the advantages of *doing this work;* but here we have the thing done, and done well; then again, people will be ready enough to collect local literature, but they do not always learn what will be the best kind of thing to collect. This Catalogue of about one hundred pages tells them this and tells it fully.

We hope sincerely that most Librarians will have an opportunity to look well into this little work, more especially as it will all appear again in the regular course of the Catalogue in Letter B which is progressing towards completion.

Some idea of the matters about which it is well to collect all information, and of the publications most likely to give this information, may be gathered from a rough summary of the contents of this fragment of the Birmingham Free Libraries Catalogue.

To take them in rough order: All Acts of Parliament relating to the Town whether in connection with its Canals, Railways, Roads, Streets, Buildings or Management; all old Almanacks (present and recent ones are matters of course in all subjects); Corporation and Official Documents, Manuscripts, Directories, Exhibitions, Societies, Theatres, Play Bills, Charities, Markets; Guides and Hand Books, Views, Plans, Maps, Newspapers, Newspaper Cuttings, Special Events (Riots, &c.), Special Men (Boulton, Watt, Priestley, Dawson, &c.), Institutions and Associations, Clubs, Schools and Colleges, Churches, Chapels;[1] Books connected in any way with the Town and its History, Poetry, Hymn-Books, Sermons, Controversies, Letters, all books printed in the Town, whether referring to the Town or not, &c. &c.

In such a Collection nothing is too small to be interesting, and in this present one we have a good idea of its proper scope—from the smallest political squib or fly-leaf to the handsome and scarce Baskerville Bibles or Classics, from the Penny Caricature to the fine Line Engraving or Portrait, from the common Woodcut of some old Street or House to the highly finished Drawing or Engraving of famous Buildings.

Of course in forming such a Collection a Librarian must be well helped by those who get together and care for all that concerns their town, but we must express our appreciation of the amount of care and trouble that must have been given to the arrangement and printing of all these materials.

See p. 125.

In conclusion we would suggest to the Librarians of the United Kingdom how much they may help on this work, by noting Books and Pamphlets that come before them, referring to other Cities or Towns, and passing them on to the Librarians there, and they in return will do the same. This we know has been done by the Birmingham Librarian, and let us hope so helpful a plan will become general in time. W.

LADY JOHN MANNERS ON VILLAGE LIBRARIES.

THE subject of village libraries has recently attracted a good deal of notice, partly, no doubt, because the success of the free libraries established in so many towns has suggested the desirability of extending their benefits to country districts, and partly because everybody feels that the awakening intelligence of the agricultural voter demands and deserves a due supply of intellectual food. Lady John Manners has contributed a series of papers on the subject to *The Queen* newspaper, which have been reprinted in a very neat shape by Messrs. Blackwood and are "dedicated, by special permission, to Her Majesty." The papers are very pleasantly written, and are likely to do good service by interesting in this matter the class of persons who can render effectual service to the cause of promoting the formation of village libraries and reading-rooms. Lady John Manners supplies a good deal of information as to what has been already done in various places in this direction, and in particular her account of the history of the Birnam Institute (p. 65), a working man's institute on the banks of the Tay, is well calculated to serve as an example. The work is perhaps a little narrow and defective in the suggestions as to the choice of books. It is true that Lady John Manners writes: "I have been asked how I find books for reading-rooms. When I am in London, I poke about at the best booksellers belonging to *the various schools of thought*." The italics are ours; but the "List of Books" offered as a guide to selection suggests that the "various schools of thought" are not so all-embracing as the phrase would seem to imply. The list of religious books is almost confined to evangelical writings, not of the most vigorous stamp. Under "Biography" we are somewhat surprised to find such an entry as "Homer," and the only entries under "History" are "Maunder's Treasury of History," and "The Victoria History of England," neither of them, we fear, likely to infect the bucolic mind with a keen enthusiasm for the study of history. The list of "Fiction" seems anything but well chosen. No single living novelist is represented; but we do find Ainsworth's "Jack Sheppard" and Lytton's "Pelham," with several other works which might be judiciously omitted from such a list.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS TO LIBRARIES.

The Hon. Sec. having been in correspondence on the question of the distribution of public documents to libraries with the First Lord of the Treasury, who had consented to receive a deputation from the Association on the subject, a Special Meeting of Council was held on August 11th, at Gray's Inn Library.

Representatives were present from Birmingham, Leeds, Nottingham, Plymouth and Wigan; and letters in support of the object of the proposed deputation had been received from Birkenhead, Bolton, Bradford, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chesterfield, Darwen, Glasgow, Hawick, Kingston-on-Thames, Manchester, Middlebrough, Newcastle, Southport, Swansea and Worcester.

The following resolutions were passed:

1. "That a deputation of members of the Library Association and others wait upon Lord Iddesleigh and Sir Henry Holland, to represent the desirability of presentation to Free Public Libraries of the United Kingdom, by the various Government departments (such as the Admiralty, Public Record Office, India and Colonial Offices, Stationery Office, Ordnance Survey, &c., with the Parliamentary Papers), of publications printed from time to time at the public expense."

2. "That instructions be given to the deputation to ask that the works issued may be deposited in such of the Libraries referred to as shall apply for the same, and which shall undertake to provide proper accommodation for the volumes so presented, to keep them in good condition, and to place them at the service of the public, in the same manner and under the same conditions as the publications of the Patent Office."

The deputation was received on the 13th of August by the First Lord of the Treasury (Lord Iddesleigh) with the Financial Secretary (Sir Henry Holland), and consisted of Messrs. J. P. Briscoe (Nottingham), H. T. Folkard (Wigan), J. D. Mullins (Birmingham), Henry Stevens, H. R. Tedder; W. H. K. Wright, (Plymouth), J. Yates (Leeds) and the Hon. Secretary, with Mr. Alderman Lupton, Mr. Alderman Boothroyd and Mr. Councillor Barker, of Leeds. The deputation was introduced by Mr. W. L. Jackson, M.P. for Leeds, and Mr. J. P. Thomasson, M.P. for Bolton also attended.

Several members of the deputation having expressed the views set forth in the above resolution, Lord Iddesleigh replied that he thoroughly recognised the important character of the deputation as representing the principal centres of industry, where the Libraries were extremely well managed and were of great use to the localities. But when they made an appeal to the Government to grant books and publications, it became a question whether the Government should become, as it were, supporters and subsidizers of the existing Libraries. Those publications were available to the public to purchase at an extremely low price, the price including simply that of ink and paper, and it was a test of the way in which works were valued whether people were willing to purchase them or not. At the same time he did not wish to express any too discouraging an opinion, because he was very sensible of the advantage which the country derived from the circulation throughout it of such information. He was afraid, however, that he should find that the expense would be not at all inconsiderable, and from an estimate which he had made he found that there were about 130 Libraries established under the Libraries' Act of 1850, and that the expense of supplying Parliamentary Papers gratis to these would involve a charge of

between £5,000 and £6,000, and this would practically be a grant made by the Treasury without a vote being taken in the House of Commons. He was, however, so unwilling to say anything discouraging in this matter that he preferred not to give any further answer at present than to say that he would take into consideration what had been stated and see whether any proposals could be made. If any arrangement could be arrived at by which the Libraries could, in return for the publications supplied, give valuable information to the Government, that would alter the position altogether, and he was not in despair of being able to make some suggestion in that direction.

The Examiners have notified that they are prepared to grant second class certificates to Mr. Albert Butcher, of Welling, Kent, and to Mr. J. J. Ogle, of the Free Public Libraries, Nottingham.

In view of the proposed change in the mode of publishing the *Library Chronicle*, the Editor will be glad to receive offers of contributions to the pages of the *Chronicle*.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

ABERDEEN.—The Reading Room in connexion with the Free Public Library was formally opened on August 25 by Lord Provost Matthews. The room forms a portion of the Mechanics' Institute buildings and will be used until the new building is ready. The Lord Provost announced that the organization of the Lending Library was making rapid progress, and paid a compliment to the devotion and energy of Mr. Robertson, the librarian.

COLCHESTER.—The *Athenæum* reports that the Harsnett Library at Colchester is at length being taken in hand, and that the Corporation have entrusted to Mr. Gordon Goodwin the compilation of a catalogue.

HULL.—The Marquis of Ripon has presented books to the value of £200 to the Municipal Library at Hull.

LEEK.—Mr. Joshua Nicholson, who last year gave to Leek a Free Library, Museum and Art Gallery, at a cost of £30,000, died on Monday morning, August 20. Mr. Nicholson was 73 years of age, and was the head of the firm of Messrs. Brough, Nicholson & Co., silk manufacturers of Leek, London, and Manchester.

LONDON: CORPORATION LIBRARY.—The Library of the Corporation at the Guildhall is to be closed for cleaning from the 14th of September to the 12th November, both days inclusive.

LONDON: HOXTON.—We understand that a Free Library is to be started at Hoxton by the General Committee of the Gospel Temperance Movement.

MANCHESTER.—With one dissentient, the Manchester City Council, on August 5, advanced the salary of Mr. C. W. Sutton, chief librarian from £300 to £350 per annum. Mr. Sutton entered the library service at Manchester in September 1865, acted as clerk to the Committee from October 1866, was appointed sub-librarian in February 1874, and as chief in April 1879, with a salary of £220, which was increased in 1880 to £300.

Mr. Matthew Robinson, librarian of the Portico Library was, on August 6th presented with a cheque for 250 guineas and an address, by the proprietors, after a service of 32 years.

NEWCASTLE.—On Aug. 24, a meeting was held at the Free Public Libraries for the purpose of presenting to Mr. Haggerston, on the occasion of his marriage, an address and a purse of gold, together with a ring for Mrs. Haggerston. The Rev. Dr. Bruce was in the chair, and the presentation was made by Dr. H. W. Newton on behalf of the committee. The Address was then read, and Mr. Haggerston expressed his acknowledgments.

NORTHWICH.—The committee of the new Brunner Free Library at Northwich, in advertising for a "competent Chief Librarian" have offered a salary of £70 per annum, though it is true that a residence in the library with gas and coals are also provided. We hope that they may have succeeded.

NOTTINGHAM. — The Jubilee Anniversary of the Nottingham Operatives' Library (No. 1) was celebrated at the Rancliff Arms, Sussex Street, on Monday evening, August 17, by a dinner, to which about thirty members sat down. The chairman of the evening (Mr. Councillor Anderson) stated that corporations and other public bodies were establishing free libraries, and before another jubilee of that library they might anticipate that free libraries and free education would before long be the equal right of all. It was stated in the Report of the Committee, that in August, 1835—the date of the establishment of the library — seven men contributed one penny each to purchase William Howitt's *History of Priestcraft.* The following week the number of members increased to nine. The library now contains about 7,000 volumes. Blackner wrote his *History of Nottingham* in the room now used as the library.

OLDHAM.—The new building intended for the Oldham Free Library, a description of which we gave at the time of the laying of the foundation stone in 1883, was formally opened on the 6th of August. The Municipal authorities went in procession to the building, where the Mayor (Mr. Alderman Radcliffe) formally declared the Library and Grounds to be open. A banquet took place in the evening, at which speeches were made by the Mayor, Mr. J. T. Hibbert, M.P., Dr. Yates and others, and was followed by a ball.

FOREIGN.

Europe.

BERLIN.—It is proposed to open the new reading-rooms at the Royal Library from 9 to 2, and from 2 to 4 o'clock. It is also intended to light it as well as the University Library with electricity.

MILAN.—A Special Manzoni Collection consisting of manuscripts, the various editions of the Works of Manzoni in various languages together with a number of relics, has been exhibited in a separate room at the National Library.

SEVILLE.—It appears from an article in the *Revue Critique*, that a number of MSS. from the Biblioteca Columbina or Cathedral Library of Seville, have found their way to the Paris market. The number of volumes in the Library is variously stated at from 12 to 20,000, the greater portion having been collected by Ferdinand Columbus, a natural son of Christopher, who bequeathed them to the Cathedral. A number of valuable books have recently been sold to a Paris bookseller, and one of them subsequently brought 11,100 francs at auction. The most striking feature in the case is the apathy of the Spanish authorities.

United States.

HARVARD.—Mr. J. R. Lowell has presented to the Library of Harvard College a collection of books, 688 volumes, formed by him during his eight years' residence abroad. They are mostly Spanish with a few Italian and English books, and though chiefly modern, many of them are rare, while none are commonplace.

NEW YORK.—Mrs. Robert L. Stuart has announced her intention of leaving by her will the large library, formed by her late husband, to several Societies in New York. The library consists of over 10,000 volumes of choice works especially in the fine arts, archæology, architecture and natural history, and are splendidly bound. A catalogue has been printed for private circulation.

PLAINFIELD, N. J.—The city of Plainfield has come into possession of the Male Public Library and Art Gallery. It is said that Mrs. Julia Ward Howe driving by the new library, expressed great indignation at the "idea of a library and art building being exclusively for males," but the word Male is merely the name of the donor, Mr. Job. Male, who has presented the library to his fellow citizens. The building is of three stories with space for 60,000 volumes, and a large art gallery, and cost $25,000. It becomes the property of the city when $20,000 have been subscribed for books and objects of art. This sum is all but obtained.

It is with great regret that we record the death of our member Mr. W. S. W. Vaux, F.R.S., which took place on June 21st. Mr. Vaux was well known to a large circle of scholars, whom he was always ready to assist from the stores of

his extensive knowledge. After ceasing to be Keeper of the Coins and Medals at the British Museum, Mr. Vaux became Secretary of the Royal Society of Literature and later of the Royal Asiatic Society. For some years he was engaged in cataloguing the coins at the Bodleian Library, and during that period he took great interest in the Library of the Union Society, in the re-arrangement and re-cataloguing of which, during the librarianship of Messrs. Ashton Cross and Thomas, he took an active share. He was a member of the Organising Committee of the Conference of Librarians in 1877. The impression made by his genial manner will not easily be forgotten.

Mr. W. J. Thoms, the well-known antiquary, whose best claim to fame is that he was the founder of *Notes and Queries*, died on August 15th, aged eighty-one. Mr. Thoms had only recently retired from the deputy-librarianship of the House of Lords.

Mr. Horace Cannon, Library Assistant, 44, Wells Street, Oxford Street, has by an advertisement in the *Athenæum*, invited Library Assitants who are willing to attend a meeting of Library Assistants to consider the advisability of forming an Association for their mutual improvement and the protection of their interests, to communicate with him.

Dr. O. W. Holmes writes, in the series of papers called "The Old Portfolio," appearing in the *Atlantic Monthly*:— "The old librarian was a peculiar character, as these officials are apt to be. They have a curious kind of knowledge, sometimes immense in its way. They know the backs of books, their title-pages, their popularity or want of it, the class of readers who call for particular works, the value of different editions, and a good deal besides. Their minds catch up hints from all manner of works on all kinds of subjects. They will give a visitor a fact and a reference which they are surprised to find they remember, and which the visitor might have hunted for for a year. Every good librarian, every private book-owner, who has grown into his library, finds he has a branch of nerves going to every bookcase, a branch to every shelf, and a twig to every book. These nerves get very sensitive in old librarians sometimes, and they do not like to have a volume meddled with any more than they would to have their naked eyes handled. They come to feel at last that the books of a great collection are a part, not merely of their own property, though they are only the agents for their distribution, but that they are, as it were, outlying portions of their own organization."

The June and July numbers of the *Library Journal* continue Mr. Schwartz's Papers on "An Alphabetico-Mnemonic System of Classifying and Numbering Books." The June Number has some "Notes on the Sutro Library," and the July number contains the Programme of the Seventh Conference of the American Library Association to be held at Lake George, September 8th to 11th, and an Article on "Reference Book-Making," by E. A. Mac. It also contains an account of the "New York Library Club."

The July number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* contains articles on the "Biography and Bibliography of Beatus Rhenanus," by Dr. G. Knod, and on "A 15th Century Catalogue of the Erfurt University Library, by H. O. Lange." The August number contains an "Obituary Notice of Jo. H. C. Schubart" (Librarian of the Landesbibliothek of Cassel, who died on May 1st, aged 85), with a list of his writings, by Albert Duncker, with articles on "The Removal of the Vienna University Library;" on "The Exchange of University Publications," by A. Carriere; and on "Ex-Libris," by M. Harrwitz, &c. &c.

The July, August and September numbers of the *Neuer Anzeiger* contain a full "Description of the Incunabula in Prince Fürstenberg's Library at Pürglitz (Bohemia)." The September number contains also a sketch of the life and labours of J. G. T. Graesse, the well-known Dresden bibliographer, who died on Aug. 27, aged 71.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Corporation of Birmingham. Free Libraries, Reference Department. Catalogue of Books. Letter B only. Birmingham, 1885. La. 8vo., pp. 99-336.

This instalment of the continuation of the Birmingham Reference Library Catalogue, letter A of which we noticed in the first number of *The Chronicle*, contains nearly twenty thousand books and pamphlets. It includes full lists of the books on such important subjects as Bibliography (4000), Birmingham (6000), which we notice elsewhere, Botany (1500), British Museum (420) and Byron (300.) The entries in these larger articles are broken up into classes, and the article Bibliography is furnished with an elaborate Index occupying upwards of ten three-columned pages. Of the typography of the Catalogue we have already spoken.

Cambridge Public Free Library. The Thirtieth Annual Report, 1884-5. Cambridge, 8vo, pp. 13.

The committee report the increased usefulness of the library in consequence of the enlargement and rearrangement of the premises, though the unusual expenditure, on this account and for printing new index catalogue, has prevented them from adding as many books as during previous years. The Central Reference Library contains 8,008 volumes; the Central Lending Library 18,025; and the Barnwell branch 4,042. The issues during the year were 90,936, an increase of 10,990 over the previous year, and the largest yet recorded. The average attendance in the reading room exceeds 1,100. The rate produced £715 7s. 1½d., and fines and sale of catalogues, &c. £101 5s. 4d. The expenditure exceeded the income by £37 16s. 9d.

Borough of St. Helens Free Public Library. Supplementary Catalogue of Books added to the Lending and Reference Departments since 1882. Compiled by Alfred Lancaster, Librarian. St. Helens, 1885. 8vo, pp. 61.

An alphabetical catalogue, the class to which each work belongs being indicated by letters; works of fiction are placed separately at the end. The contents of magazines are set out.

Liverpool Library. Annual Supplementary Catalogue (with the Laws and Report). Liverpool, 1885. 8vo, pp. (xv) 93.

The Committee in their 127th Annual Report announce continued prosperity. The income was £1191 16s. 3d., of which £493 16s. 6d. was spent on new books and subscriptions to London circulating libraries. A balance of £3 0s. 1d. remains in hand, leaving the balance of the capital account untouched. The number of works issued was 62,478. The dispute with the committee of the newsroom remains unsettled. The latter have not responded to a suggestion of amalgamation, and have determined to carry an appeal to the House of Lords. Stock has been taken after an interval of some years, with the unsatisfactory result that over 500 works, or parts of works, are found missing.

London Library, 12, St. James's Square, S.W. Report and Additions, 1884-5. 8vo, pp. 48, and wrapper.

The Committee report satisfactory progress. The total receipts amounted to £4,831, an increase of £156. The number of members has advanced to 1,846, or 68 more than last year. There have been 9,205 more issues, the total being 103,407. The number of volumes added by purchase and gifts amounts to 3,527, besides 120 pamphlets.

Borough of Nottingham Free Public Libraries. Class List No. 6 of Books in the Reference Library—the Drama and Poetry. Compiled by J. Potter Briscoe, Principal Librarian, and John J. Ogle, Assistant Librarian. Nottingham, 1885. 8vo, pp. 50.

Arranged alphabetically under the names of the authors, in two sections—1, Drama 2, Poetry. The contents of the principal works and collections are set out.

Borough of Nottingham. Annual Report of the University College and Free Library Committee, 1884-5. 8vo, pp. 19.

A steady increase is reported in the amount received for fees in the College, £1,024 in 1885, against £834 in 1884; all the departments showing an increase in the number of students. A Commercial department was opened in January. The Libraries and Reading rooms increasingly popular. Two additional Reading-rooms and a Lending Library opened during the year. Increase in issues and attendances of every library, &c. except children's. Stock of books 45,320, increase during year 6,490 vols.; 241,260 vols. issued; 187,027 from

four Lending Libraries, and 54,233 in Reference Library and Reading-rooms. Consultation of periodicals estimated at 25,000 more; improvement in character of consultations noted. 4,130 borrowers enrolled during year, against 4,076 in previous year. More than 4,000 daily attendances. Five Class Lists, &c. issued during year. Attendance in Natural History Museum during year 243,300; daily average 928. There are elaborate statistics in an Appendix.

Borough of Rochdale Free Public Library. The Fourteenth Annual Report. Rochdale. 8vo, pp. 19.

The Lending Department has issued 103,921 volumes, an increase of 4,500 over the highest of any previous year. There have been no issues from the Reference Department, there being no accommodation for readers on account of fire. By purchase, transfer from Subscription Library and donations, 2,523 volumes have been added to stock. Of the purchases 579 volumes were for the formation of a Library for Boys. The new Free Public Library building has been completed, and was opened by the Mayor on October 30th. The Borough rate produced £945. Towards the formation of the Boys' Library Thomas Watson, Esq. J.P., made the handsome donation of £100.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

The Old Church and School Libraries of Lancashire. By Richard Copley Christie, Chancellor of the Diocese of Manchester, President of the Chetham Society. Printed for the Chetham Society, 1885. 4to, pp. xv. 216.

This volume, which forms No. 7 of the New Series of the Chetham Society, has a special interest for our readers as an expansion, and a very considerable expansion, of the Paper read by Mr. Chancellor Christie at our Liverpool Meeting. We propose to give a fuller account of the volume in another number, and meantime limit ourselves to saying that the work has been executed with the skill and accuracy we are accustomed to expect from its author.

Public and Private Libraries of Glasgow. By Thomas Mason, Librarian of the Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library, Glasgow. Glasgow: Printed for subscribers and for private circulation. Thomas D. Morison, 1885. 8vo, pp. 448 (Four hundred and fifty copies printed).

This is another volume for which we are indebted to one of our own members, whose pens appear to be so busily engaged elsewhere that they have no time to contribute to the pages of the CHRONICLE. Mr. Mason has produced a goodly octavo volume, describing 3 public and 13 private libraries, all of which appear to deserve the elaborate account given of them in this work. We hope to call attention to it again, and hope that the present volume may induce many other librarians to describe the book-collections in their respective towns.

Directory of the Antiquarian Booksellers and Dealers in Second-hand Books of the United States. Compiled by C. N. Caspar. Milwaukee, U.S. C. N. Caspar, 1885. 4to, pp. 276. Subscription-price $ 5 net.

The book is arranged in a general alphabet with addresses, followed by a geographical arrangement according to states and towns, and lastly a classification of the dealers according to their specialties. Prefixed are some hints for finding the "author, title, publisher, place of publication, edition, size or price of books," which the editor describes as "valuable," and short lists of bibliographies, trade catalogues, &c. which are useful though far from being exhaustive. The book is printed on writing paper and on one side only, so to allow of additions.

Origines de l'Imprimerie à Paris d'après des documents inédits. Paris: Charavay, 1885. 8vo, pp. vii. 253. fr. 10.

A popular but not untrustworthy account of the introduction of printing into Paris by the humanists Heynlin von Stein (de Lapide) and the Savoyard Guillaume Fichet. They invited to Paris the three first printers, Ulrich Gering, Michael Friburger and Martin Crantz, whose first book was issued in 1470. Dr. Sieber, of Basel, to whom so many recent writers on early printing have been indebted, has supplied much information to M. Philippe. The book is illustrated with portraits and photographic reproductions.

Candidates for the next examination for Library Assistants may be interested to learn that an English translation of Scherer's History of German Literature, which is one of the recommended text-books, will be published by the Clarendon Press under the editorship of Prof. Max Müller.

"An Index to Articles relating to Oriental subjects in current periodical Literature" is now running in Trübner's *Literary Record*, and promises to be exceedingly useful.

Our readers will be interested to learn that Mr. Chancellor Christie's book on Étienne Dolet has been translated into French.

The Clarendon Press announce a *Catalogue of the Greek MSS. in the Monastery of Mount Sinai*, by Prof. V. Gardthausen.

On Sept. 4 the Committee of the Kilmarnock Burns Museum purchased, from Mr. Richardson of Glasgow, the original MS. of Burns' "Tam O'Shanter," for the sum of £235.

A good deal of discussion has taken place recently about the bookworm, and in particular Mr. A. J. Bowden in a paper in *Booklore* tells us that "but little is known of its habits." In his references to the literature of the subject no mention is made of Prof. Hagen's articles on the subject, including a bibliography, in the 4th volume of the *Library Journal*.

No. 12 of "The Library of Cornell University" contains a list of the books recently presented to the University Library by the Hon. Eugene Schuyler. They are classed under the heads of Folklore, Russian History and Literature, Philology, Music and Miscellaneous. The number contains also a list of accessions.

We have received several numbers of the "Bulletin of the Mercantile Library of Philadelphia," to each of which is usually appended a bibliography of some special subject by the librarian, Mr. John Edmards. Among these we find a "Bibliography of Dies Irae," a list of "Finding Books," or Indexes and "Indexical" works, and some "Reading Notes on Education."

Signor Enrico Narducci, librarian of the Biblioteca Alessandrina at Rome, sent to the Plymouth Meeting, together with a letter expressing his regret that he could not attend, copies of his two works, "Dell' Uso e della Utilità di un Catalogo Generale delle Biblioteche d'Italia relazione e proposta a S. E. il Sig. Comm. Prof. Guido Baccelli, Ministro della Istruzione Pubblica, seguita dalla prima sillaba dello stesso Catalogo" (Roma, 1883, 4to., pp. xix. 169), and "Giunte all' Opera 'Gli Scrittori d'Italia' del Conte Giammaria Mazzuchelli tratte dalla Biblioteca Alessandrina" (extracted from the Proceedings of the Reale Accademia dei Lincei: Roma, 1884. 4to., pp. 120.)

Signor Narducci writes: "Je vous envoie deux travaux bibliographiques sur les quels je désirerais l'opinion des savants membres de l'Association à laquelle je vous prie d'annoncer aussi que j'ai presque terminée le catalogue des MSS. de la Bibl. Angelica de Rome, en latin, sur le systême de Bandini, c'est-à-dire un peu plus détaillé que les excellents catalogues de M. Coxe."

Notes and Queries.

Anonymous Books.—In reply to "N. R. E." (I. 204), I beg to state that the author of *The Czar*, who also wrote *Arthur Erskine's Story*, *Dark Days of Dundee*, *No Cross no Crown*, *Spanish Brothers*, *Under the Southern Cross*, *&c.*, is Miss Alcock.

J. Potter Briscoe.

Pseudonym.—"Stepniak," the Nihilist author, is said to be Professor Dragomanoff, of Kiev University, South Russia. J. P. B.

Erratum.—For "Sherwood" read "Charnwood" in my note in vol. I. p. 204. J. P. B.

Liverpool and Dublin Volumes.

It is hoped to issue with the next number of the *Chronicle* the concluding sheets of the Liverpool volume. Subscriptions for the volume may now be sent to the treasurer. It will be issued to subscribers at 12s., and will be published at 16s. The Dublin volume will at once be put in hand, and all papers should at once be forwarded to the secretary.

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The Library Chronicle.

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF THE PHILOBIBLON.[1]

By Ernest C. Thomas.

IN two articles which appeared in the first volume of the *Library Chronicle*,[2] I gave some account of the various editions of the Philobiblon of Richard de Bury, and I promised in a future paper to supply an account of the extant manuscripts of the Philobiblon, "which must form the basis of that thorough reconstruction of the printed text, which is necessary before we can be said to have the good Bishop's work before us as it left its writer's hands." I pointed out in my former papers that all the editions of the Philobiblon are characterized by an inaccuracy which renders scores of passages almost or wholly unintelligible, while it disfigures many hundreds of others. It has been usual to consider this inaccuracy as due to some extent to the imperfections of the manuscripts, but mainly to the author of the book, and his literary reputation has suffered accordingly.

Thus the Spires editor, in 1483, complained of the copy he used as being so disfigured by blunders "ut emendatum ferme nusquam videretur," while Thomas James, in 1599, begs of the reader that he will pardon "in Auctore primum barbarismos ac solæcismos (sic) in scriptis." Again, Schmidt in the reprint of Goldast's recension, which is to be found in the Supplement to Mader, speaks of the diction of the book, "quæ genium istorum temporum sapit quæque incuria atque ignorantia amanuensium admodum corrupta est," a judgment followed by Fabricius, who says of De Bury, "saeculum suum sapit."

This view, that De Bury wrote in a barbarous and ungrammatical style, rests, of course, on the assumption that the printed texts substantially represent the Philobiblon as it was left by its author. The only means open to us of testing the correctness of this assumption consists in an examination of the extant manuscripts.

It will be convenient first to state briefly what manuscript materials appear to have been employed by successive editors. The early editions appear to have been printed in each case from a single manuscript copy. James was the first editor who professes to have used and compared a number of MSS. What they were, we do not learn from the book itself, the title-page merely stating that the text is "ex collatione cum variis

[1] Read at the July Monthly Meeting of the Library Association.
[2] See pp. 148 foll., 170 foll.

Manuscriptis." But we can determine pretty certainly what they were from James's *Ecloga Oxonio-Cantabrigiensis*, published in the year 1600. This is a kind of index to the MSS. at that time contained in the libraries of Oxford and Cambridge, to which he adds those to be found in two private libraries. He there enumerates six MSS. of the Philobiblon. Four of these were at Oxford, in the libraries of All Souls, Lincoln, Magdalen, and Balliol; one was at Cambridge, at Saint Benet's (now Corpus Christi); and one was in the private collection of Lord Lumley. The Oxford and Cambridge MSS. are still where they then were; that of Lord Lumley cannot be traced, though it should have found its way into the British Museum. No doubt James might have had access to all these MSS., and a careful collation of them, if the work were worth doing, would show to what extent he made use of them. Though I have had no time for this, I have found enough to show that James seems to have relied largely, if not mainly, upon the Magdalen MS., and also to show that Inglis is quite wrong when he says of James, that he doubts "his having collated various ancient manuscripts, but has no doubt of his having preferred his own words to those of the author." I may add that Dibdin is equally at fault when he says[1] that he has carefully compared the editio princeps with James, "and the result of this comparison has been a conviction that the Oxford edition contains nothing more than the Cologne impression, being *sometimes less particular*." On the other hand, I fear that Thomas Hearne was also somewhat wide of the mark, when he asserts of James and his editorial work upon the Philobiblon, that "*in libello perpurgando multum sudavit.*"[2] Though it is impossible to doubt that James did honestly look into several manuscripts, it is clear that he did his work somewhat hastily and carelessly, and that he left a very great deal to be done for the text before it could be properly described as "perpurgatus."

The edition of Melchior Goldast in 1610 followed closely the Paris edition of 1500, which appears to have been the edition James had in view when he describes his own as "editio jam secunda;" and that of 1703 in turn reproduced the edition of 1610. No one professes to have examined the manuscripts after James until the French editor, whose edition was issued in 1856. Cocheris collated three MSS. in the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris. Two of these MSS. are (so far as I can judge) older than any of those mentioned by James, and any one of the three would have furnished a very much better text than those previously printed. Yet Cocheris contented himself with leaving the text (in his case again that of 1500, reproduced from that of 1703) almost exactly where he found it, and giving the collations of his three MSS. and of James in the form of footnotes; so that the reader ought to be able to re-construct the text for himself, if he cares to take the trouble of doing so. I have, however, very carefully tested the collation made by Cocheris, and regret to find, as I had already suspected, that it is quite untrustworthy. Abundant evidence of this will be found in my forthcoming edition, when I purpose to give the various readings of the two more important of the Paris manuscripts. Cocheris's explanation of his retaining the old text is sufficiently naïf and amusing. He speaks in his preface of the faults of the text as being due partly to the copyists but partly also to the author, and goes on, "Comme il m'était impossible de distinguer celles que je devais respecter de celles que je devais enlever, j'ai préféré conserver à l'ouvrage son cachet barbare . . . ." But the work thus declined was surely the least that could have been expected from anyone proposing

[1] Bibliotheca Spenceriana, iii. 237.
[2] Leland's Collectanea, ed. Hearne, ed. alt., vi. 299.

to edit such a work, with such materials as were at his disposal; and if he was unwilling or unable to undertake it, it is difficult to see why he should become an editor at all.

So much for the MSS. used by Cocheris. In addition to these, in his *Notice bibliographique* he also mentions two MSS. at the British Museum, one at the Bodleian, one in the collection at Gresham College, one at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge (not Canterbury, as Cocheris amusingly translates the Cantabrigia of Bernard),[1] one at St. John's College, Oxford, one in Bishop Cosin's Library, Durham, one at Brussels, one at Basel, and one at Venice, and he also refers to a MS. which was once in the possession of Fabricius, making a total of *fourteen* MSS. Leaving out of account the MS. that cannot be traced, this enumeration leaves *thirteen* MSS. as known to exist in 1856. No enumeration has since been published, but the enquiries I have been making during the last eighteen months have enabled me to increase the list of known MSS. to twenty-eight, all but two or three of which I have examined, or propose to examine, for my forthcoming edition, thanks to the courtesy which has enabled me to make full use of many of these MSS. at my own convenience. Others have been sent to the British Museum, or to Gray's Inn, for my use, upon condition of being kept in those institutions, and I am greatly indebted to those librarians who have not hesitated to send their valuable MSS. from various parts of this country and the continent; two of these MSS. have been sent from Germany, and one from Switzerland. The twenty-eight MSS. are thus distributed:—In London, the British Museum has *three:* Cott., Harl. and Add. MS. 24,361. In Oxford there are *eight*—one in the Bodleian and seven in college libraries. In Cambridge there are *three* in the libraries of as many colleges. Then there is one at Durham, and two more came to me from private custody, making seventeen in this country, or five more than the entire number recorded by Cocheris. Abroad, there are three in France, all in the Bibliothèque Nationale, at Paris, which have been sent to London for me; three in Belgium, belonging to the Royal Library at Brussels, which M. Alvin has kindly offered to collate for me; two in Germany, at the Royal Library of Munich, which have been sent to the British Museum for my use; one at Basel, which has also been sent to the Museum; one at Venice; and one at Rome, in the Vatican, making up the total of *twenty-eight* MSS., without including the two MSS. whose present whereabouts, if they are still extant, I have not yet ascertained. Of these twenty-eight MSS. fifteen are, at the present moment, in London.

Dealing now with the dates of these MSS., it is unfortunate that few of them are older than the fifteenth century. Some of the MSS. bear the date of their origin, as, *e.g.*, the Munich MSS., which are dated respectively 1426 and 1454. The date of the others is fixed, of course, by the style of writing and the contractions. Thus the three MSS. at the British Museum are assigned by Mr. Thompson to 1430, 1450-60, and late fifteenth century. There are, however, three MSS. which may be assigned to the fourteenth century. Two of these are at Paris, and the third is in the Bodleian Library. This last I have carefully examined, for which purpose it was deposited for some time in the Gray's Inn Library. Its date is fixed as somewhere about 1370, or within some thirty years of the writing of the book. This MS. was acquired from Sir Kenelm Digby, and was not in the library until about the middle of the seventeenth century,

[1] Catalogus librorum MSS. Angliæ et Hiberniæ, Oxon., 1697, fol. The blunder of Cocheris is faithfully reproduced by the American Hand, of whose edition I have already spoken: *loc. cit.*, p. 152.

and was not among the MSS. to which James had access. Perhaps the best Oxford MS., after the Bodleian, is that at Corpus Christi College, which was also not seen by James, though it is, I think, a better MS. than any in his list. Of the Cambridge MSS. the best are at Corpus and Trinity. The former I have examined in Cambridge, and the latter is at present deposited in Gray's Inn Library. The third is a badly written and imperfect MS. partly written on paper, and has been kindly lent me by Sidney Sussex College.

Of the British Museum MSS. two only are mentioned in Bernard's Catalogue, one being in the Harleian and the other in the Cottonian Collection. The former was used by Mr. J. Bass Mullinger for the account of the Philobiblon which he has given in the *History of the University of Cambridge*,[1] and he duly notes that it seems to give a much better text than the printed copies. This is undoubtedly true, but I think it is also true that the Cottonian MS. gives a slightly more correct text than the Harleian. The third Museum MS. was acquired at Mr. Hunter's sale in 1861, and is a paper MS. of later date than the others, all, however, dating from the fifteenth century.

An account of the Paris MSS. has been given by Cocheris in his Introduction. It may be sufficient to say here that two of them are of first-rate importance, while the third is a MS. of the fifteenth century upon paper. The degree of reliance to be placed upon Cocheris's report of any difficult or doubtful passage in these manuscripts may be judged from the following fact. He mentions the circumstance (which he takes from Bernard) that the Corpus MS. at Oxford has a note attributing the authorship of the Philobiblon to Robert Holcot, and discusses the question thus raised. But he has entirely failed to observe that one of his own Paris MSS. has at the beginning of the Philobiblon, written in the plainest and most conspicuous red letters, the title "Philobiblon olchoti anglici." Of this M. Cocheris nowhere in his book makes the slightest mention! One of the Paris MSS. has at the foot of the first folio of the Philobiblon a note of a kind not uncommon in mediæval MSS.: "Iste liber est sancti victoris parisiensis; quicunque eum furatus fuerit vel celaverit vel titulum istum deleverit, anathema sit, amen. O."

The Oxford MSS., including those which have been acquired since James's time, have been described, either by Mr. Macray in his catalogue of the Digby Manuscripts in the Bodleian, or by Mr. Coxe in his Catalogue of the MSS. in the Colleges of Oxford. Those acquired by college libraries, since the date of James's index, are at Corpus Christi College, St. John's College and at Balliol. That at St. John's is by some oversight omitted from the index to Mr. Coxe's Catalogue, although it is duly described in the body of the book. It bears the title "Hic aurum tibi non valet, ubi nitet Philobiblon." A MS. of great interest is that lent me by Magdalen College, Oxford, because I think it can be shown conclusively that this is the MS. which James mainly followed in his edition. To set out all the evidence of this would only weary you, but I may be allowed to point out a single page which furnishes two or three very striking evidences in support of this. I will first print the passage as it is to be found in James (cap. xiii, p. 43):—

Omnia genera machinarum, quibus contra poetas solius nudæ veritatis amatores obiiciunt, duplici refelluntur umbone; quia vel in obscœna ingratus cultus sermonis addiscitur, vel ubi ficta sed honesta tractatur sententia, naturalis vel historialis veritas

[1] Vol. i. p. 204 ff. He has, however, overlooked the circumstance that Cocheris has not used the Paris MSS. in forming his text.

indagatur sub eloquio typicæ fictionis. Quamvis nimirum omnes homines naturaliter scire desiderent, non tamen omnes æqualiter delectantur addiscere; quinimmo studii labore gustato et sensuum fatigatione percepta, plerique invicem abiiciunt inconsulte, priusquam testa soluta nucleus attingatur. Innatus est enim hominum 24. annorum amor propriae libertatis in regimine et aliquantae voluptatis in opere, ... Idcirco prudentia veterum adinvenit remedium, quo lascivum humanum ingenium caperetur quodammodo pio dolo, dum sub voluptatis iconio delicata munera delitescerent in occulto.

The argument here is that men and boys are difficult to teach because, first they are fond of having their own way, and secondly are fond of pleasure, or as it is expressed by De Bury in the ordinary text, "Innatus est homini duplex amor, videlicet propriæ libertatis in regimine et aliquantæ voluptatis in opere." For this James substitutes the extraordinary version, "Innatus est enim *hominum* 24 *annorum*, &c. The *hominum* presents some grammatical difficulty, but the 24 *annorum* is really unintelligible, for the characteristics here mentioned are certainly not peculiar to people of 24 years of age. This is, however, the reading of the Magdalen MS., and it is not easy at first sight to explain how it arose. It may, however, be plausibly suggested that the 24 (the 4 being written, not in the modern shape, but in the common mediæval fashion, which makes it look not unlike the mediæval x) is a misreading of the contraction 2^{x} for *duplex*, which I find actually so written in the Trinity College MS., and the Munich MSS. read "$\overline{\text{scds}}$ amor," which is probably due to a misreading of a similar contraction. The *annorum* or annor, as it would be written, is a pretty intelligible misreading of amor, and so the whole mystery becomes clear.[1] But there are several other mistakes in this passage, all of which are to be found in the Magdalen MS. Thus *in obscena ingratus* is a misreading of "in obscena $\overset{a}{m}$ (=materia) gratus," the contraction for *materia* being written close up to the *gratus* and so looking to a careless reader as if it were *in* and belonging to the following word, and James appears to have so read it, though of course it makes nonsense of the passage. Again, *invicem* for *nucem* makes more nonsense, but is in the Magdalen MS., while *munera* instead of *Minerva*, which is also in this MS., is very strong. The MS., it is true, reads "delitesceret," but James seems to have altered the number of the verb to make it agree with *munera*.

A MS. of some interest is that in Bishop Cosin's Library at Durham, which has also been lent to me by the Trustees. It is a nicely written MS., but presents a good many omissions of single words, owing either to the defective condition of the MS. from which it was copied, or to the inability of the scribe to read particular words. Otherwise it seems to be pretty closely related to the Bodleian MS.

The two MSS. from Munich, which I have already mentioned as bearing the dates at which they were respectively written, appear to have been copied from a common original, unless, which is not unlikely, the one was copied directly from the other. The first has a note at the end that it was "Scriptum in Vriess ... a. 1426;" the other that "Scripsit codicem Wolfgangus Klammer in Gmunden," with the date 1454.

The Basel MS., like the Munich MSS., is on paper, and though of the fifteenth century is a good MS. It has an intelligible reading in one passage in particular, where the reading of all the other MSS. seems to be impossible. In Chap. xi., in the

[1] I am afraid the printer has not got the types necessary to render all this quite clear to those who are not acquainted with mediæval writings.

sentence "licet mentem nostram librorum amor hereos possideret a puero," it is difficult to see what to make of *hereos*. Here the Basel MS. reads *herous*, which even if it be only a conjecture of the scribe, seems at least deserving of respectful consideration.

I now come to two MSS. which have been lent to me out of private custody. The first is a Flemish MS. written about the middle of the 15th century and, though not of great importance, is a fairly good MS. It presents some interpolations—the more considerable of them being in the tenth chapter.

The other is perhaps the most interesting of all the later MSS., and came into my hands in the most unexpected way. Its present custodian showed it to me as a Cologne MS., the evidences of which are conspicuous, not merely in the stamps and motto upon the old leather binding, but also in the thick German handwriting. Upon looking into the text I was struck by some curious coincidences of reading between it and the editio princeps, and it occurred to me that this might be the very MS. from which that edition was printed. A closer examination of the text has but strengthened the impression, which only a full collation can carry to an absolute certainty. So far as I have yet gone, the readings of the first printed text follow this MS. very closely; and all such variations as I have found may be easily explained as accidental deviations or intentional alterations on the part of the printer's reader or editor, or possibly on that of an intermediate copyist. I think then that it may be pretty safely assumed that we have here the original of what may almost be considered as the textus receptus of De Bury. This is a fact of some importance in connexion with the assumption of some of the editors that the utmost respect is due to the readings of the first edition. As it is expressed by Mr. Inglis "The edition of 1473 was printed 129 years after the work was written and *the MS. was probably of much earlier date.*" In the first place, as I have already pointed out in my former papers, we are not entitled to suppose that the earliest printed edition was printed from one of the earliest MSS., and it might in fact as easily have been printed from the very latest, if that had been in existence in time to be used for the purpose. Then when we come to examine the text of the editio princeps we find that it is, as compared with the extant MSS. assigned on palæographical grounds to the fourteenth and the early fifteenth centuries, very corrupt and defective. But lastly, if it can be shown by a close collation of the respective texts that we still possess the very MS. from which the editio princeps was mediately or immediately printed, we are obviously in a position to make short work of Mr. Inglis's view, and of the supposed authority of the Cologne printed text. Now I am able to exhibit to you the Cologne MS., which was in the judgment of experts written about the middle of the fifteenth century, and thus may very well have been used for the text of 1473, and as I have just suggested was in fact so used. The text of this MS. which is well, though not very beautifully, written, is very faulty; and not only cannot be compared for correctness with the text of the Bodleian MS., or with the two 14th century MSS. at Paris, but is greatly inferior to almost all, if not absolutely all, the MSS. which I have examined.

Finally, I must conclude this enumeration of the MSS. by mentioning those which I have been unable to examine. Of these two are in Italy and three are in the Bibliothèque Royale at Brussels. M. Alvin, the Conservateur en Chef of the Bibliothèque Royale, has kindly offered to collate these Brussels MSS. for me, and has favoured me with an account of them, from which it appears that they are of the 15th century, one

of them bearing date so late as 1492, and that they do not seem to possess any special critical value. One of the Italian MSS. is, or was, at Venice, in the library of S. Giovanni and S. Paolo, and was recorded by Tomasini in his book published in 1650.[1] He adds: "quem miror hic Gesnerum non observasse." The other Italian MS. is at the Vatican, and is, I believe, quite unknown. At all events, I had found no mention of it, nor had ever heard of it, until M. Léopold Delisle, the learned Administrateur-Général of the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, was good enough to write me in May last, on his return from a journey in Italy: "Le hasard m'a récemment fait passer sous les yeux le MS. 259 au fonds Ottoboni au Vatican. C'est un volume copié au xiv siècle, dont la première partie est le Philobiblon de l'évêque de Durham."

In the text I am about to publish, I propose, of course, except where necessary, to follow the earlier MSS., and the text so produced will be found to vary from the Cologne MS. and the Cologne edition in at least 1200 places in a little book of some eighty small octavo pages. It must not be supposed indeed that these earlier MSS. can be always followed. On the contrary, even the best of the MSS. are very faulty and defective, and in many passages it is necessary to correct them from later MSS., derived of course from earlier copies. Finally, in a smaller but still not inconsiderable number of places, it is necessary to resort to conjecture, and to show by external evidence or by parallel passages from the Philobiblon or elsewhere, what De Bury must be assumed to have written. This defective condition of the MSS. affords a curious illustration of a passage in De Bury's book, which aptly describes the fate which his own work has undergone. He represents books as saying, (cap. iv., Coch. p. 222):—

"Heu quam falsis scriptoribus nos exarandos committitis, quam corrupte nos legitis et medicando necatis, quos pro zelo corrigere credebatis! Interpretes barbaros sustinemus multoties, et qui linguarum idiomata nesciunt nos de lingua ad linguam transferre praesumunt; sicque proprietate sermonis ablata fit sententia contra sensum auctoris turpiter mutilata!"

To call your attention to even a small fraction of the passages in which light has been thrown, and improvements introduced, by a careful collation of the MSS. would only be to weary you.

I will confine myself to pointing out the evidence offered by the MSS. which I have been able to examine with regard to two passages only of very great importance in connexion with the authorship and history of the Philobiblon. The first of these is a note or title which is prefixed to the work in several of the MSS., and which, if its testimony is to be accepted, will compel us to deny that Richard De Bury was the author of his own book. The fullest form of this note is found in the Corpus Christi MS. at Oxford, where we read, "Incipit prologus in Philobiblon Ricardi Dunelmensis Episcopi quem librum compilavit Robertus Holcote de ordine predicatorum sub nomine dicti episcopi." It is upon the strength of this note that Echard and Warton deprived De Bury of the honour of writing the Philobiblon, and Warton has been followed by other writers.[2] Cocheris (following Echard) has pointed out that the Venice MS. mentioned above is entitled "Philobiblon magistri Roberti Holkoth

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[1] Bibliothecae Venetae manuscriptae publicae et privatae, Utini, 1650, p. 27.

[2] E. g. Shirley in his edition of the *Fasciculi Zizaniorum*, p. xlviii. The Rev. J. C. Hudson has called my attention to a similar statement in a recent book, Smith's History of the Christian Church during the Middle Ages, p. 623 n.

Angli ordinis Prædicatorum;" but, as I have already mentioned, failed to observe that one of the Paris MSS. is also entitled "Philobiblon olchoti anglici." It must be added that one of the Munich MSS. is entitled "Richardi de Bur vel potius Roberti Holcotti Philobiblon," and that the fuller form of the note in the Corpus MS. is also to be found in the Harleian MS., with the substitution of the word *composuit* for *compilavit*. This is the sum of the evidence to be derived from the MSS.; that is to say, this note occurs in one shape or other in five MSS., while nothing corresponding to it is to be found in the other twenty-two MSS. of which I can speak, including the two best of the fourteenth century MSS. It must be borne in mind, moreover, that it does not follow that in those cases where it occurs the note is as old as the MSS. themselves, as MSS. were constantly left without titles, which may have been added by some subsequent possessor. As evidence, therefore, that Robert Holcot, who was one of De Bury's chaplains, wrote the Philobiblon, it is not very satisfactory. In order to gain such light as could be thrown upon the matter from internal evidence, I have read through most of Holcot's own writings, and I have no hesitation in saying that so far as the evidence of style may count for anything there appears little reason to assign the Philobiblon to Holcot. Holcot may possibly enough have acted as the Bishop's amanuensis in the preparation of the book, and may have given him other assistance. A traditional and perhaps exaggerated account of this may have reached the ears of some scribe or possessor of a MS. of this work, and he may have set down the note in question. But it would be certainly unfair to deprive De Bury of the credit of having planned and written his own book on such shadowy evidence as can be adduced in Holcot's favour.

The other passage to which I propose to call your attention, has some bearing upon this question of authorship, and is also of interest as fixing (if it is genuine) with great particularity the exact date of the completion of the Philobiblon. It is a concluding note of some length, and, like the preliminary note of which we have just spoken, is not to be found in any of the printed editions. The form in which it is found in the Bodleian MS. is as follows: "Explicit Philobiblon domini Ricardi de Aungervile cognominati de Buri quondam episcopi Dunelmensis. Completus est autem tractatus iste in manerio nostro de Aukeland xxiiij die Januarii, Anno Domini millesimo trecentesimo quadragesimo quarto, aetatis nostræ quinquagesimo octavo præcise completo, pontificatus vero nostri anno undecimo finiente: ad laudem Dei feliciter et Amen." This passage is found, with slight alterations, in the Cotton and Harleian MSS., in that of All Souls at Oxford, and in the three MSS. at Cambridge. It is also found, though in a much abridged shape, in the Magdalen MS. and in the Durham MS. It appears also to have been found in a MS. once in the possession of Fabricius, which has since disappeared. Its absence from most of the later MSS. sufficiently accounts for its not being found in the printed texts. On the other hand it is somewhat difficult to account for its absence from the two fourteenth century MSS. at Paris, and thus the question of its genuineness naturally suggests itself. As the note occurs, as I have said, in an abbreviated form in the Magdalen MS., it may be that its omission from James's text is due to some suspicion on his part of its genuineness. I need hardly say, however, that it is easier to account for its casual omission from some copies than for its insertion in others. If it be a forgery, it is, considering the minute particularity of the date, a very impudent forgery, and as it is found in so many good MSS. it certainly seems the safer course to accept it as in all probability genuine.

In conclusion, I will only hope that what I have said has convinced you of the desirability of a new edition of the text of the Philobiblon, reconstructed with the aid of all the manuscript materials of which I have attempted to give you some account. I had hoped that long before this the work would have been finished and have been in the hands of the subscribers. But no doubt you will agree with me, after hearing this statement of the number of the manuscripts which it was necessary to examine, that this task was not one to be hurried over, and that in justice, not only to the author and his former editors, but to those who have so kindly assisted me by the loan of MSS., and to myself, I am bound to spare no pains or time required for the process of "medication and correction."

THE DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS TO LIBRARIES.

Lord Iddesleigh has addressed a letter to Mr. W. L. Jackson, M.P., who introduced the Deputation from the Library Association, on the 13th of August last, which conveys the answer of the Treasury authorities to the request then laid before them on behalf of the Public Libraries of the country. It may be well to place that letter on record in the pages of our official organ, together with a letter addressed on behalf of the Association by the Hon. Secretary to Lord Iddesleigh, in reply to his request for some information as to the wishes of the Association.

Library Association of the United Kingdom, Aug. 4th, 1884.

To the Right Hon. The First Lord of the Treasury.

My Lord,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Daly's letter of the 1st of August, from which I learn that your Lordship wishes to be informed what supply of Public Documents to Public Libraries is desired, and whether for all or a limited number of these Libraries, and what are the advantages anticipated therefrom.

As it is no doubt of importance in view of the rising of Parliament, that your Lordship's request for information should be promptly responded to, I think it better to reply without waiting to lay the matter before the Council of the Library Association, or the Library authorities represented by the Association. I have every reason, however, to believe that I am sufficiently acquainted with the views held by those authorities, to enable me to do so without inconvenience.

What is desired by the authorities of the Public Libraries may be briefly stated in the terms of the recommendation of a Select Committee, which was appointed to consider this subject as long ago as 1853. They recommended that wherever Public Libraries have been established, upon application from the managing body, the Government publications should thereupon be sent to them free of charge, immediately upon publication. Under the publications of the Government are included not only papers presented to Parliament, but the publications issued by departments, such as the Admiralty, the Ordnance and Geological Survey, the Master of the Rolls, etc. etc.

With regard to the libraries which should be supplied, that will be a question for your Lordship's consideration. The libraries in respect of which the application is made, are the libraries which have been established under the Libraries Acts, which date from 1850. Since that time such libraries have been established in about 130 towns. A return has recently been presented to, and ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, on the 9th of March. The return supplies information as to 115 of these towns. A brief summary of the Return will be found in No. 14 of the "*Library Chronicle*," our official organ, a copy of which I have the honour to transmit with this letter.

If it be thought that there are objections to supplying all the publications in question to the whole list of libraries, perhaps a selection might be sent to the smaller libraries. The plan might be adopted which is applied to the Patent Office publications, which are supplied entire to some 30 of the larger libraries, while the abridgments only are sent to others.

Of the advantages to be anticipated from the proposed distribution I might speak at considerable length, but I am anxious not to trespass unduly upon your Lordship's attention. The publications of the departments include a vast amount of valuable scientific and historical matter. The parliamentary papers contain, of course, a great mass of information, which it is desirable to make as accessible as possible to the public. I think I am correct in saying, though I cannot at this moment lay my hand upon the report, that your Lordship has recently in a speech delivered in the country spoken of the need for supplying accurate information upon public affairs, and it may be submitted that the libraries which have been established and are maintained by the ratepayers have a peculiar claim to be considered by the Government. No pecuniary assistance is allowed them out of Imperial funds, such as is furnished in the case of London, Edinburgh and Dublin. The effect of the proposed distribution of documents printed at the national expense would be to relieve their finances, while no additional burden would be imposed upon the Imperial exchequer.

I hope that it may be found possible to receive the proposed deputation, which will doubtless put the subject before the Treasury authorities more effectively and satisfactorily than I have been able to put it in this brief communication.

In conclusion I may point out that not only has the principle of a gratuitous distribution of such documents to Public Libraries been sanctioned by the recommendation of a Select Committee, but it is also to be found in the statute book. The Public Record Act of 1838 (Public Record Act, 1 & 2 Vict. Cap. 14, Sec. 15) provides that with regard to any of the publications contemplated by that Act: "So many printed copies of any such record, calendar, catalogue and indexes, as the Secretary of State from time to time shall direct, may be presented gratuitously to public offices, institutions and libraries in this or any other realm or country."

I have the honour to be, My Lord,
Your Lordship's obedient Servant,
ERNEST C. THOMAS,
Hon. Sec.

Lord Iddesleigh's first answer to the request that he would receive a deputation on the subject, was that his engagements would not permit of his doing so. But in answer to this letter Lord Iddesleigh expressed his willingness to receive the deputation. An account of what took place on that occasion has been given in a previous number of the *Chronicle*, and the result of the consideration of the question then promised is shown in the following letter:—

10, Downing Street, Whitehall,
Nov. 13th, 1885.

DEAR MR. JACKSON,

I have carefully considered the question brought before me by the deputation introduced by you in July last, as to the possibility of free grants of Government publications being made to the Public Libraries. I stated at the time the objections I saw to such a proposal, and on further consideration I remain of the same opinion. But I am glad to say I have made an arrangement which, by appreciably reducing the cost to Public Libraries of purchasing such publications, will I trust be of considerable advantage. A contract is about to be made under which one contractor will be able to undertake the sale of all the Government publications published by the Stationery Office; and it is to be a condition of the contract that the accredited agents of Free Public Libraries are to be allowed at least 25 per cent. discount from the prices of the publications as fixed by the Stationery Office. The Comptroller of the Stationery Office will be prepared to send to any Public Library which

may apply for it, a catalogue, which will be published in each year, of the Government publications issued in the previous year, showing the price fixed by the Stationery Office for each publication. The new contract will not come into force until the 1st of January, 1887, and until that date the arrangement cannot take effect.

I remain, yours faithfully,

MR. W. L. JACKSON, M.P. (Signed) IDDESLEIGH.

How far what the Treasury authorities appear to regard as a concession will be satisfactory to library committees and librarians, remains to be seen. But judging from the letter from Mr. Watson, of Hawick, which will be found at the end of our present number, and which is confirmed by what we have heard from Mr. C. W. Sutton, of Manchester, the supposed concession really amounts to little or nothing, because already many, perhaps all, of the documents covered by Lord Iddesleigh's promise, are obtained by the libraries at the 25 per cent. discount now promised. How far this is generally the case we shall be glad to learn, if some of our readers, who are librarians, will take the trouble to inform us.

It seems at all events safe to say that we cannot rest contented until we have obtained all that has been asked for. And when we consider that, while in the year ending March last no less than £359,000 was spent in the printing of various Government publications, the whole amount received from their sale was only £34,810, it is clear that the cost of distributing a few surplus copies among the public libraries of the country is as nothing compared with that already incurred by the publication of these documents at all. When we add that the amount received for the sale of waste last year was £11,511, or one-third of the sum received for the sale of a portion of the same matter as books, it surely seems a pity that some better destination cannot be found for the storehouses of information on public matters which are thus ruthlessly consigned to the butterman and the fishmonger.

To these arguments Mr. Yates, whose labours in this matter should be fully recognized, has added another, and it is this. At present many of these publications, which are not advertised in the ordinary way, are practically unknown to the general public. By sending them to the libraries frequented by thousands of readers, they would become better known, and many persons who would eagerly purchase such of them as they required, if they were only aware of their existence, would help to swell the receipts from the sale of these publications. The experiment seems worth trying; and perhaps this argument will be effective with the Treasury when others have failed.

SOME AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY CATALOGUES.

By C. W. HOLGATE.

During a stay of over a year in Australia, I have been fortunate enough to visit, and make myself acquainted with the working of the chief libraries in the different Colonies, and the results of my investigations were contained in a paper which was kindly read for me by the Rev. W. D. Macray, M.A., at the Annual Meeting of the Library Association at Dublin in October, 1884.

This paper, which was the first paper on Colonial Libraries ever read before the Association, will shortly appear in the outcoming volume of Transactions, and it will be found to contain some reference to the system of cataloguing in vogue in the different libraries from which I obtained information.

With but few exceptions, I was kindly presented by those libraries in Australia,

which have printed catalogues, with specimen copies of the same, and as some are well worth the notice of librarians, I have put together the following notes on the collection, which I brought back with me.

South Australia.

Supplement to the Catalogue of the South Australian Institute. Adelaide, 1876. 8vo. pp. x. 140. A classified catalogue. The works are arranged alphabetically by authors' names, under each class heading, except in the case of biography and works of reference. The title-page is given in full—printer's name only excepted—of every work in the library, except prose works of fiction, and, where obtainable, other information as to the author is added. Press marks are also given, and the whole catalogue is a model of careful work.

Catalogue of the Parliamentary Library of South Australia. Adelaide, 1871. With Supplements for 1878, 79, 80, 81, and 1882. 4to. pp. xxviii. 430. A well compiled, printed and bound volume, divided into two parts; the first being an alphabetical arrangement, under authors' names, of every work in the library, the title page (including publishers' names) being given in full. The second part is a subject-index, the short titles of all works being set out under various headings. A synoptical table precedes the subject-index, and facilitates the use of it. No press marks are given.

Catalogue of the Library of the Supreme Court. Adelaide, 1883. 8vo. pp. iv. 114. A neat little volume, divided into three parts—the first, text books, arranged under authors' names; the second, reports, arranged both under the name of the Court, and of the reporter; and the third, an index of subjects. No press marks are given.

Victoria.

The Catalogue of the Public Library of Victoria. Melbourne, 1880. 2 vols. 4to. pp. lxiv. 2,082. This well-known work is a fitting memorial of the painstaking labour of the late librarian, Mr. Sheffield, and of the energy of the late President of the Melbourne Public Library Committee, Sir Redmond Barry, K.C.M.G. It is an author catalogue, with the customary abbreviated particulars from the title-page given; but no press marks are given, and in the following cases, viz.—if the work is a first edition; if it is in one volume; and if the place of publication is London, no mention is made of the fact in the entry. The elaborate introductions are exceedingly interesting, and befit the zeal which is shown in working the finest library in the Antipodes.

Supplementary Classified Catalogue of the Parliamentary Library of Victoria. Melbourne, 1879. 8vo. pp. ix. 322. A handsomely got up volume, on the same plan, and in continuation of the catalogue published in 1865. The elaborate, but practically exhaustive, system of classification used, was the device of Mr. James Smith, a former librarian. The books are arranged alphabetically under authors' names in each class, and full particulars as to size, date and place of publication, are given, but no press marks.

Catalogue of the Library of the Supreme Court of Victoria. Second Edition. Melbourne, 1875. 4to. pp. xxxv. 309. An author catalogue, with full title, edition, size, number of volumes, place and date of publication, but no press marks given. Also an index of subjects, with the names of authors who have written on any given subject. This catalogue, apart from its merits in showing forth the contents of the library, deserves mention for the admirable history of the legal profession in the Colony of Victoria, which, with other valuable matter, is contained in the introduction.

New South Wales.

Catalogue of the Free Public Library, Sydney. Reference Department. Sydney, 1878. 8vo. pp. xxi. 982. A masterly piece of work, from a master hand in the art of cataloguing. This book is divided into four chief parts; the first is an alphabetical catalogue under authors' names, with full title, particulars, and press marks given; the second is a complete catalogue of all pamphlets in the library arranged, both by author, title and subject, under one alphabet; the third is a complete inventory of the books, showing their classification in the presses; the fourth is an index in which, under one alphabet, every work in the library is to be found, both by its short title, by the leading words in the title, and by the subject matter of the book. In this catalogue were first exhibited Mr. R. C. Walker's immense capabilities for elaborate, accurate, and complete cataloguing.

Supplement to the Catalogue of the Free Public Library. Reference Department. Sydney, 1880. 4to. pp. iv. 370. This is also a piece of the same librarian's work; it is done on a different, but on an original and satisfactory plan. It is divided into two parts; the first, an author catalogue under class headings, with press marks; the second, an analytical classified index, wherein (under one alphabet) every book is to be found by the name of its author, editor, &c., by its short title, by the subject, by the title under its classification, and by all the leading words in the title-page. This system of cataloguing has been found to answer so well that it has been definitely adopted in the Sydney Free Public Library; and these two volumes are the most skilled, as well as the most elaborate, examples of library cataloguing yet accomplished in any of the Australian Colonies.

Catalogue of the Lending Branch of the Free Public Library. Sydney, 1883. 8vo. pp. ii. 526. A very complete and handy volume issued to the public at the low price of one shilling. In two parts; the first, an alphabetical author catalogue, with press marks; the second, an analytical classified index on the same plan as in the Reference Department. This catalogue is designed to work with a "Recorder" of Mr. Walker's own invention, and bears the impress of his, and his staff's, thorough work upon it. It is the model of what a lending library catalogue should be.

Catalogue of the Library of the Parliament of New South Wales. Sydney, 1880. 8vo. pp. 398 (with Supplements for 1882, 83, 84, pp. 118). A well printed author catalogue, with all necessary information given, but no press marks.

Catalogue of the Library of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Art. Sydney, 1885. 8vo. pp. xii. 340. A nicely printed classed catalogue, the works being arranged alphabetically by short titles under various subject headings. Name of author and library number of each book are given. This careful piece of work is due chiefly to Mr. John Henderson, the energetic librarian of this flourishing institution.

Catalogue of the Library of the Australian Museum. Sydney, 1883. 8vo. pp. 178. A carefully compiled classified catalogue under eight classes, with an elaborate index of authors' names and short titles under one alphabet. Press marks are given in both parts of the catalogue, except in the case of unbound pamphlets and parts.

Queensland.

Analytical and Classified Catalogue of the Library of the Parliament of Queensland. Brisbane, 1883. 4to. pp. viii. 425 + 6. This work is well got up and printed, and is introduced by an able preface by its compiler, Mr. O'Donovan, who is now a member

of the L.A.U.K. It is on the dictionary plan, and in many cases the most ample information is given; but the work is marred by a great want of system; the contents of works, such as those containing lives of various persons, are in some cases set out in full, and have cross references to the names of the different persons, in other cases the names are not set out, nor are they given in the body of the work. The imperfections of the work are due to the fact that the compiler had to work single-handed, and so, no doubt, occasionally lost sight of the principles upon which he started, and which are embodied in the preface. It is the first catalogue on the dictionary plan in the Australian Colonies, and as such deserves a place in the history of cataloguing.

Catalogue of the Library of the Supreme Court of Queensland. Brisbane. First Edition, 1881. 4to. pp. xi. 69. A very nicely got up book, with seventy blank pages numbered and bound up with it for additions. The works in the library—which is entirely confined to legal subjects—are catalogued with reference to their author and to the Court to which they relate, under one alphabet.

Having now briefly alluded to the catalogues of the more important Australian libraries, I must make mention—still more briefly—of a number of printed catalogues of provincial and other libraries which, for the most part, are productions, creditable to the institutions which they represent, and to the local presses from which they emanate.

The Free Public Library of Ballaarat East (Victoria) has a printed catalogue issued in 1869 with supplements to date, under authors' names, with press marks given.

Bathurst (N. S. W.) Mechanics' School of Arts has a neat catalogue, printed in 1884; the works being arranged alphabetically by short titles under nine classes.

Geelong (Victoria) Mechanics' Institute has a nicely got up classified catalogue, issued in 1876, with supplement, 1884, the work of Mr. B. W. Wheatland, a member of the L.A.U.K.

Goulburn (N. S. W.) School of Arts has a classified catalogue, issued in 1884, price one shilling; marred, as to its appearance, by interleaf advertisements.

Launceston (Tasmania) Mechanics' Institute has a classified catalogue of its 10,000 volumes, issued in 1880, with supplement to October, 1884, printed in double columns throughout.

Maryborough (Queensland) School of Arts has a neat classified catalogue of its library, issued in 1881, with supplement, 1883.

The Melbourne Athenæum, which is an institution corresponding to the Sydney School of Arts, has a well printed classified catalogue, issued in 1881 (8vo. pp. 185). This is one of the oldest, best supported and managed institutions in the Australian Colonies.

The Mechanics' Institute and Free Library at Sandhurst has a handy classified circulating library catalogue, issued in 1884, 8vo. pp. 322, price sixpence.

The Mechanics' Institute of Swan River, Perth, Western Australia, has a neat little catalogue, published in 1882, 12mo. pp. 122; "Fiction" takes up fifty-seven pages of it; the works throughout are set out under short titles.

The Parliament Library of Tasmania has a very much abbreviated catalogue, in two parts; the first, of subjects; the second, of authors; published in Hobart, 1882. 8vo. pp. 101.

The Tasmanian Public Library, Hobart, has a printed catalogue, issued in 1871,

with supplement, 1884. 8vo. pp. 177. The works are arranged alphabetically under authors' names: the number on shelf, short title, and number of volumes are also given.

A very useful little catalogue of "Newspapers, magazines, publications of learned societies, serials, &c.," received currently at the Melbourne Public Library was published in 1882; the size, period of issue, and place in the library are indicated. From it one learns that the "Monthly Notes," and "Transactions" of the L.A.U.K. were received, and the "Library Chronicle" has, no doubt, ere now found its way there.

A catalogue of "Works on New South Wales" contained in the Sydney Free Public Library was compiled by Mr. R. C. Walker in 1878. It is well done, and is, so far as I know, the only bibliography on the subject in print.

I have now come to an end of the notes on my collection of Australian catalogues, but I must add that the following libraries, some of which I visited, have also printed catalogues, nearly all of which I have examined.

Brisbane School of Arts, Bastlemaine Free Library, Ballaarat Mechanics' Institute, Port Adelaide Institute, Prahran Free Library, Yass Mechanics' Institute, Rockhampton School of Arts, the Crown Law Office, Melbourne, West Maitland School of Arts, and the Libraries of the Royal Societies of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, and Tasmania.

I trust that these few notes on the catalogues of the Australian libraries may be sufficiently interesting to those readers of the *Library Chronicle* who are librarians themselves, to induce them to send their annual reports and catalogues to the libraries in the Antipodes, with a view to receiving reports, &c., from those flourishing institutions in return. And I also trust that, should this paper fall into the hands of any of my librarian friends in Australia, they will be mindful to send accounts of their libraries from time to time to the Library Association of the United Kingdom, which will ever watch with interest their progress and success.

IRA WAKE WITH THE BOOKWORMS.

(Reprinted from the *Devonport Independent* of Saturday, September 26th, 1885).

The series of meetings, gatherings, rides, jaunts, conferences, and what not beside, which formed the programme in connection with the visit of the librarians to the district, was as varied as any holiday keeper could desire, and yet as bookish as every librarian might expect or hope for. When it is considered that, after all, librarians are but men—and women, and that they are subject to all the frailties that humanity is beset with, there is but small fault to be found with the general desire of the majority of them to make the conference a holiday. Probably that was the best spirit in which to enter upon the consideration of the subjects that came before them, for the coming enjoyments hedged about the work they did with the pleasures of hope, looking forward to the reward that was looming in the near distance.

There is no denying that the heartiness of the western welcome, joined with the magnificent and varied natural attractions, which the visitors could not but contemplate with the fullest admiration, produced a desire that the work of the conference might not be unduly hurried. If expressions go for anything, not a few of those who saw were conquered, and will take the famous advice of Horace Greely to the young men of America—"go west"—at some later period. To such an extent, indeed, did this idea present itself that some went so far as to whisper that the next conference might, perhaps, be held at Devonport, a testimony to its position as an enjoyable centre for work and recreation. So far as Devonport

took a share in the programme under notice she bore her honours meekly, and congratulation as to the success of this share was thorough and hearty—coming as it did from strangers who were sufficiently matured in judgment to recognise a good thing when they saw it, and, who being among strangers, could appreciate the attempt to make them at home—which proved a thoroughly successful attempt—and cordially to show they felt so.

Naturally, coming from library buildings of varied character, far and near, comparisons were made, and the Devonport buildings, especially the library itself, came in for the warmest admiration, the majority considering them superior to those of the town on the Plym, where the accommodation is more cramped and the general arrangements not so complete as could have been arranged for in buildings specially laid out for the purpose, which these are not. Plymouth did well in utilising her old Guildhall, but she will not be content with the present buildings for longer than she can help. So far as interior accommodation for the library is concerned Devonport bears the palm in this district.

Second in order of the principal engagements in connection with the bookworms' visit —the Mayor of Plymouth's luncheon taking premier position—was the "at home" of the Mayoress of Devonport in the Library. There was such a congregation of society, representative of its many circles, as had not been there for many a day. Mayors' chains were quite a feature, of course the respective bearers of them being the holders of the honours in their several towns. The services were represented, and the scene was bright and gay with the colour of the ladies' dresses and the gold lace which forms so striking a feature of naval and military uniforms. The gathering was a genuine success, and being somewhat of a novelty it had a charm all its own. Perhaps, as a method of bringing the townsfolk in contact, and making them at home with one another, the proceedings may prove a hint for future chief magistrates of the borough.

Of course our friend—Mr. Ira Wake—whose sayings and opinions have before been chronicled, as representing our American cousins, was there enjoying himself to the top of his bent. The scene was one with which he was perfectly familiar, or one of great similarity, that of the New Year's Day reception, observed throughout the Union. The quite-at-ease style, which somehow sits uncommonly well on the folk from over the way, just suited the occasion, as it was desirable that no stiffness or formalism should obtain if possible. The Mayoress had quite enough to do to receive the flow of visitors as they came in and were announced by name. It reminded one of a big reception to which one's memory goes back —when several gallant and successful United States generals—Phil Sheridan, as he was familiarly known ; General Custer, of "the plains," which had been his foraging ground for so many years, and whose wife had the reputation of being the finest horsewoman in America ; and many others received a vast number of visitors in connection with a re-union of the Army of the Potomac. It bore a resemblance, too, to a presidential or congressional reception at Washington, at which kind of thing our cousins are *au fait*, and, as we have said, was as pleasant an example of *dolce far niente* as could be found.

It may not be surprising if Truro, when her Free Library is opened, should follow on the lines so admirably laid down, seeing that that western city was represented by the Mayor (Mr. Dorrington) and Alderman Norton.

Introduction and acquaintance making was going on in all directions, and it was evident that the flow of soul was progressing as genially as the comforting essence of bohea, souchong, or other fluid would induce. It is wonderful how a cup of tea breaks down a barrier and thaws the coldness out of a company. Ira Wake was not averse to the influences that such an infusion awakens, not to mention the social and refreshing side of it. It provoked him to speech, and, as we know, he can say something when he is so minded, and he was so minded on this occasion.

"I guess this is a-bout the pret-tiest show ever I see," was the opinion he vouchsafed as he surveyed the party while lounging against one of the pillars supporting the gallery. "Its real good you may de-pend, that's a fact, and, con-sidering that I hev already given it my o-pinion that you do things real nice in this west country of yours, I al-most con-clude

this caps the lot, though I don't no-how want to rise yer pride any." "Well, Mr. Wake, we fancy we have a decent town here, clean and well-kept, and as good as big towns are made, when they're not specially made to order, cut and dried, and fit to be framed," said a Devonporter who evidently had an idea that it was well to carry the warfare into the enemy's camp. "That's so, and you air about right without being un-duly boastful either, not but that I think a townsman has a fair right to stand up for his town if its worth it. Wa'al, you know, we can lick you all to nothing in the way of clean towns, for, d'ye see our cli-mate's in our favour, and in the ma-jority of our towns we are not so e-ternally smoky as you are here. You'er sorter hazy all the time, not but that hasn't the advantage now and then, but it makes us think your climate's pretty soft and kinder thick, and that the smoke hangs a-round out-side your buildings. But I'm in-clined to go with our Na-thaniel Haw-thorne, who is a writer of con-siderable re-pute with us we con-sider, for he says the cli-mate of England is the finest in the world—and I con-clude he's a tried it and com-pared it with others or he would'nt pose as an authority. That's a reasonable con-clusion, I guess. You have done a wise thing to have some of his works on the shelves of your library, as I see by your in-dicator, not that his works ex-haust the list of what our writers have done, and you should remember that. Yes, I do con-cede some of our publishers have been mighty smart, a mighty sight too smart when looking at the square thing, in publishing your authors without leave and without re-muneration either, not that your people have been free from the same thing anyway. But the best of our people do now pay your authors, and that's jest as it should be, and I pre-sume your publishers are quite ready to re-ciprocate. Its about the only fair trade that I can see any sense in, for we've jest about had enough of pro-tection, if I come to compare prices here and there. What do I think of your library room? Wa'al, its as good as any I've seen for a con-siderable pe-riod; for most of these in-stitutions have already out-grown their room, but you have con-siderable space for expansion, and I must con-gratulate the town on their library. Its a noble room, and I should sup-pose your young people fully re-alise its value to them. When I was young there were no free libraries for the crowd, but we have set the ball a-rolling, and I guess it won't stop yet for a spell. You're kinder slow over here in moving, but I guess you are pretty safe when you have decided to move, and you move real smart after a bit. Therefore your free library will go by-and-by pretty solid, you may de-pend. I guess your music is the real thing, and none of your penny whistle order. That's as pretty a little band as ever I heard, and I do suppose the Mayoress and the company can be more at home with them tooters going than if there were nothing of the sort, for, d'ye see, it kinder helps the assembly to talk. And so you reckon Admiral, you'd no idea that you had so good a library near you; wa'al, I guess you are not so good a navigator ashore as afloat. If the hull thing had been a floating con-cern out in the stream you'd have found out its quality be-fore now, or my name isn't Wake. And let me say, Admiral, I've found out in my little survey that some of the boys who own Devonport as their native place, and air as proud of it as they had ought to be, have not forgotten the library in its re-lation to the na-vy and the town. You may see in them shelves as pretty a pile of books concerning naval ar-chitecture as you shall de-sire, and I am told they are all the gift of one man. Perhaps, in your cap-acity, you may be able to do-nate to this excellent institution some vol-umes equally valuable. I guess you can if you like. Don't be too modest, Admiral, in your o-pinion thereon, for thar's no manner of doubt on the point in my mind. If no begin-ning is made, no pro-gress will ever be re-corded."

A genial smile broke over the visage of Ira Wake, and correspondingly upon those to whom this gentle hint was visible. Time alone will shew whether the hints take root and grow.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The November Monthly Meeting was held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, November 6th, at 8 p.m., Dr. Richard Garnett in the Chair.

The following new Members were announced as having joined the Association :—Darwen Free Public Library ; Ernest Laurence, Librarian, Free Public Library, Hertford ; W. C. Waller, Hon. Librarian, Working Men's Club and Institute Union. Mr. Horace Cannon, of London, and Mr. J. Teal, of Halifax, were proposed and seconded for election at the next Meeting.

The Chairman then called upon the Hon. Secretary to read a Paper on "The Library of the German Booksellers' Börsenverein." After a discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper.

The Hon. Secretary made an appeal to the Members for offers of Papers, and the Meeting then adjourned.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

BOOTLE.—The foundation stone of a New Public Free Library and Museum was laid on Nov. 4, by the Mayor. When completed, there will be a Public Reading Room 43 feet 6 inches by 24 feet, a Lending Library 64 feet by 26 feet, and a General Library 64 feet by 26 feet, besides the various necessary lobbies, lavatories, store-rooms, and other offices, and besides a spacious area for museum purposes. There was a large assembly to witness the ceremony, amongst whom were several neighbouring Mayors and Sir J. A. Picton. After the ceremony a luncheon was provided, and again in the evening an "At Home" was given by the Mayor and Mayoress to about 200 guests. Mr. John Johnson, A.R.I.B.A., of Queen Victoria Street, London, is the architect.

DARLINGTON.—The new Building of the Free Library was opened on Oct. 23, by the Viscountess Lymington, in the presence of the Mayor and Corporation, and a distinguished company. After the opening ceremony a bust of the late Mr. Edward Pease, whose donation of £10,000 was the cause of the erection, was unveiled by Mr. Theodore Fry, M.P., after which a luncheon was provided by the Mayor and Mayoress. A full report of the proceedings, with an elevation of the new Library was given in the *Northern Echo* of Oct. 24. The building was designed by Mr. George Gordon Hoskins, F.R.I.B.A., of Darlington, and carried out under his personal supervision, on the commission of Sir Joseph, and Mr. Arthur, Pease. The style of architecture is Renaissance. The materials employed are red pressed bricks, red stone, and pitch pine. The west elevation has a frontage of about 106 feet, and the north elevation of about 92 feet. The main entrance is at the junction of these two elevations, and is made conspicuous by a handsome gable and porch. Entering by this porch, through swing doors glazed with stained glass, we come into a handsome oval-planned vestibule, and thence into the public lobby, which gives access to the various rooms of the building. There is a large area of marble mosaic pavement, in the centre of which stands a white marble bust of the founder, the late Mr. Edward Pease, on a black marble pedestal. A mellow light falls on the bust from the large octagonal ceiling of stained glass lights. The lending library measures 57 feet by 29 feet, and is admirably lighted from the roof, which is partly open-timbered, and from the beams hang ten double gas pendants. The librarian's desk is immediately in front of

the entrance, and by a careful arrangement of glass-panelled doors he is enabled to see every person who enters the lobby as well as the reading rooms and the reference library. Running south from one side of the librarian's desk to a length of 43 feet, and from the other side running east for about 12 feet, are the indicators for 30,000 volumes. The remainder of the furniture in this room consists of specially designed bookcases capable of holding 32,000 volumes. The general reading room measures 51 feet by 29 feet, and is well proportioned. It has a fine coved ceiling, springing from a moulded cornice, and enriched frieze. From the cornice spring moulded and enriched ribs, which divide the cove into panels and extend along the horizontal portion of the ceiling, dividing it into large lights and panels, which are filled in with stained and painted glass, representing the Arts and Sciences. The furniture consists of six newspaper stands, each 9 feet long, and five reading tables. The reference library measures 36 feet by 29 feet; the furniture consists of two handsome glazed bookcases, each 16 feet long, and capable of holding 3,000 volumes. Two reading tables, 14 feet by 3 feet 9 inches, and a number of chairs. There is also a ladies' reading room, with a committee or writing room. The basement will be used as a lavatory, newspaper and old book stores, &c. The whole of the floors are laid with patent noiseless carpet, and the heating arrangements promise all that could be desired. A luncheon was given by the Mayor, and in the evening a public meeting was held, at which Lord Lymington, M.P., and the Bishop of Durham spoke. We hope to give a fuller account of the proceedings.

Dublin.—The Board of Works have, with the consent of the Treasury, accepted the tenders of Messrs. J. and W. Beckett, of Dublin, for the erection of the new buildings for the Museum of Science and Art and the National Library in Kildare Street, Dublin. The tender was for £110,000, and was the lowest sent in, the others, 44 in number, varying between that sum and £180,000.

Handsworth.—On Oct. 31, a Branch Reading Room, furnished with a few useful works of reference, was opened at Perry Barr; the room will accommodate between twenty-five and thirty readers, and is provided with a supply of newspapers and magazines. There was a good attendance at the opening ceremony.

Leigh.—A special meeting was held on October 13th, in the Lecture Hall of the Liberal Club, to inaugurate the eighth session of the Leigh Literary Society, and also to celebrate the opening of the Reference Library, and the occasion was also used for the public distribution of prizes to the successful students of the science and art classes. The Rev. F. Coleby, President of the Society, occupied the chair, and addresses were delivered by Professor Boyd Dawkins and others. Mr. Marsh referred to the assistance they had received from Mr. C. Madeley in forming the list from which the library was selected.

London: East End.—The Prince of Wales has "gladly consented to become Patron of the Bethnal Green Free Library in place of the late Lord Shaftesbury."

The Princess of Wales, who was accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Albert Victor, and the Princess Louise, opened the Working Lads' Institute, in the Whitechapel Road, on October 31. One of the features of the Institute is an excellent Reading-room and Library, designed to accommodate 150 members.

London: Guildhall Library.—We learn from the *Daily News* of Nov. 13, that "to-day the Guildhall Library will be re-opened, after repairs which have taken nearly two months to complete. While it has been closed the oak roof has been cleaned and oiled, and the whole of the stonework renovated. The three large sun-burners have been brought down 20 feet, to give a better light for reading purposes. The museum and reading-room have also been re-painted, and the whole of the antiquities re-arranged by the Librarian. A new oak screen is being made and fitted in the corridor to keep out the draughts, and to add to the comfort of the numerous readers. During the interval the Librarian and his staff have been closely engaged in preparing an alphabetical catalogue of the Library, which the Corporation has directed to be printed. The card-catalogue—arranged alphabetically under authors and subjects—has been kept up to date, and is always ready for reference, and by its means any

book in the Library can be found in a few moments."

LONDON: INNER TEMPLE.—The Inner Temple Library was lighted by the electric light for the first time on October 28th. About 140 small lamps are employed, the system in operation being the Swan-Edison. The lamps are so distributed as to leave no dusky corner in any part of the Library. An attendant searching for a book in a gallery can, in an instant, switch on a powerful light, or can reach over the balustrade and haul up one of the suspended lamps, so as to bring its brilliant glow to bear upon the shelves in the fashion of a hand lantern. The engine-house is situated near the Inner Temple Lecture Hall, in King's Bench Walk, and the engine for generating the light is a 12-horse power one. As oil lamps only have hitherto been in use in the Library, the change effected by the substitution of the electric light is peculiarly striking.

NOTTINGHAM.—The University College and Free Libraries Committee opened another branch on Leen-side, on Oct. 21st. There are at present six branches in different parts of the town, and the committee hope to have two more in a short time. Alderman Linley presided, and was supported by a number of influential gentlemen, including many members of the Town Council. The room will be supplied with seventeen daily and twenty-one weekly newspapers, nine periodicals and a good stock of books. The room is in one of the poorer districts of the town, and has been used as a mission room. It will be open from 10 a.m. till 9.30 p.m.

TRURO.—We regret to learn that the determined opposition, which has beset the effort to establish a Free Library in the Cathedral City of Truro, still continues, and it is to be carried to the polls in connection with the forthcoming municipal elections; a dead set being made by the oppositionists against Mr. William Norton, the chief promoter, and others, who led the way in this much-to-be-desired reform. It is comforting to find, however, that other and better feelings actuate some Trurorians, as we are informed that a Paper is shortly to be read at the Wesleyan Institute, by Mr. George L. Phillips, on the benefits attending a Free Public Library.

TUNSTALL.—On Thursday, October 29th, a new Town Hall and a Free Library were opened at Tunstall, North Staffordshire, which have been erected at the cost of about £30,000.

FOREIGN.

CHRISTIANIA.—From the Annual Report of the University Library, we learn that 6,248 volumes were added during the year 1883-4, making the total stock 249,178 volumes. The number of volumes issued during the year was 45,226, of which 28,374 were taken out.

COLOGNE.—The fusion of the Jesuiten-bibliothek with the Stadtbibliothek, of which we spoke in a previous number (vol. I, p. 176), has now taken place, and the books have been removed. The work occupied thirteen days, and was performed by men of the fire-brigade, and without interruption to the work of the Town Library, under the superintendence of Prof. Düntzer. The use of the Town Library is steadily increasing, the number of volumes lent out last year being 4,998, and of readers in the library 2,257. Before the end of the year it is hoped that a bibliographical account of the collection of editions of the *Imitatio Christi*, and a full report on the re-arrangement and cataloguing of the library, with a short account of its history, will be published.

HEIDELBERG.—Dr. Karl Zangemeister, the University Librarian, has published an account of the system of the Subject Catalogue of the University Library. The system was originally devised by F. C. Schlosser, who was librarian from 1817 to 1825, whose seventeen main classes have been retained by Zangemeister, chiefly because he had not free space at his disposal to accommodate the books in process of rearrangement.

PARIS: BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE.—The Minister of Public Instruction has submitted a decree which has been approved by the President, organising the Consultative Committee of officers of the Bibliothèque Nationale, and dealing with the duties and salaries of the library officials. It bears date the 17th June, 1885.

The death of Mr. Cornelius Walford, which took place on the 28th September, has removed from our midst one who has been a leading member of our Association from its foundation, and had been a familiar figure at our annual meetings. Mr. Walford was an active member of several learned societies, and an industrious writer. His library of works on the various subjects in which he took an interest, are very extensive, and in the department connected with the subject of Insurance was probably the largest collection ever made, at all events by a private collector. The six volumes of his unfinished "Insurance Cyclopædia" are a monument of industry and devotion. His death has cut short the work upon this book and upon his projected "Dictionary of Periodical Literature," the plan of which he had laid before our Association at Cambridge, unless indeed his library and materials happen to pass into hands able and willing to continue his work. The Council of the Library Association, at their October meeting, passed a resolution of regret at our loss, and of sympathy with Mr. Walford's family.

In an article bearing the title of "Little Vauxhall," Mr. Frederick Gale contributed to the August number of *Time*, an interesting account of the late Mr. W. S. W. Vaux, in which he deals especially with the genial social qualities of Mr. Vaux and his bachelor "At Homes" from 1850 to 1862.

Some of the Members of the L. A. U. K. who attended the recent successful gathering at Plymouth may be glad to possess copies of the group taken by Mr. R. P. Yeo, at the entrance to Lord Morley's Mansion, at Saltram. Unfortunately, some of the members are crowded out, but the picture contains a number of capital portraits, and is a pleasing memento of an interesting event. Mr. Yeo's address is 69, Lisson Grove, Mutley, Plymouth.

Mr. J. W. Zaehnsdorf, the well-known bookbinder of 36, Catherine Street, Strand, and an amateur photographer of considerable ability, has produced some capital photographs of various portions of the late Exhibition of Books at the Old Hospital, Plymouth. Notably the representation of the cases containing the Exhibits of Mr. R. M. Holborn, Lord Crawford and Balcarres, and the valuable collection lent by Mr. Zaehnsdorf himself, are excellent specimens of photography. Parkhouse's Model Library also comes out well, and the Blind Room, with the blind boy reader, is an interesting feature. A group of the Exhibition Committee was also taken.

The library of the late Mr. Nicolas Trübner, which he had intended to present to the University of his native town of Heidelberg on the occasion of its Fourth Centenary celebration in 1886, has been sent by his widow to Heidelberg. It fills thirteen cases, and includes about a hundred manuscripts.

On November 3rd Lord Iddesleigh delivered an address to the Students of the University of Edinburgh on "The Pleasures, Dangers and Uses of Desultory Reading." We understand that the address will appear in a printed form.

The October number of the *Western Antiquary*, edited by Mr. W. H. K. Wright, contains an article on "The Bishop's Library, Truro," by the Rev. C. F. S. Warren, Assistant-librarian, and the first of a series of supplementary papers, by the Rev. J. Ingle Dredge, on "Devon Booksellers and Printers in the 17th and 18th Centuries," with much other interesting matter.

The *Neuer Anzeiger* for October contains articles "Ueber Deutsches Bibliothekswesen" and on Mr. Tedder's paper on "Librarianship as a Profession," with articles on "The Royal Library in Berlin," and on "The British Museum." The November number translates the papers set at our Examination of Library Assistants with the remark, "If these questions not only stood upon paper, but were really answered, then—all respect for our English colleagues."

The September-October double number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* contains two very long articles, one on "Alphabetische Anordnung" by Herr Mecklenburg and a "Bibliographie der Einzeldrucke von Martin Opitz' Gedichten und sonstigen Schriften" by H. Oesterley, with one or two minor papers. The November number contains articles on "Bücheranzeigen des 15 Jahrhunderts" by Wilhelm Meyer, "Wie sollen Handschriften-kataloge beschaffen sein?" by *P.* Gabriel Meier, and "Zur Geschichte des akademischen Tauschvereins."

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Gateshead Public Library. Catalogue of the Lending Library and List of Reference Books. Gateshead, 1885. La. 8vo., pp. 313, cl. back. Price 9d.

This Catalogue, compiled by G. H. Elliott, the secretary and librarian, is arranged on the alphabetical index plan of author and subjects. It sets out the contents of collectaneous works. Appended is a list of a few reference books, including the Chronicles and Memorials. The type is small but clear, and the headings are in thick type.

Burgh of Aberdeen. Report of the Public Library Committee, 1884-85. 8vo., pp. 19.

The Report contains a short history of the Public Library movement, from its first step in 1872 to the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts in 1883, when the promoters of the scheme were rewarded for their persistency by success. In the lending library there are 15,000 volumes, for which the Committee have prepared a Catalogue on the dictionary plan. In the reading room care seems to have been exercised to promote its usefulness ; the number of visitors during eight weeks was 39,246, the daily average being 817.

Barrow-in-Furness. The Third Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library, 1884-5. Barrow-in-Furness, 1885, pp. 15.

The number of volumes issued for home reading was 65,090, a decrease of 2,007, which is explained by the fact of longer time being allowed to readers. Moreover the decrease is in the class of fiction, more solid classes of literature exhibiting a gain. In the reference department the increase is 741, the total being 22,330. With a total issue of 87,420 volumes only six have been injured or lost. Additions, by gift and purchase, have been made of 2,068 volumes. The number of readers is 1,779. A new Catalogue has been issued. About 7,200 persons attend the news-room weekly, an average of 1,200 per day. The total number of volumes is 10,622. Appended is a list of newspapers and periodicals.

Borough of Bradford. The Fifteenth Annual Report of the Public Free Libraries and Art Museum Committee. Bradford, 1885. 8vo., pp. 19.

The total visits and issues in all departments were 1,576,489, showing an increase of 291,362. In the Central News and Reading Room, 612,894; Reference, Lending and Patents, 186,019 ; Art Museum, 389,498 ; the seven Branch Libraries, 192,271 ; and the six Branch Reading Rooms, 195,807. The total number of volumes added to the libraries was 4,176. In the Central Lending Library the issues were 131,656 against 130,640. In the Central Reference Library the issues were 52,684 against 57,137. The visits to the Art Museum have been 389,498, a daily average of 1,244, against 343,919. During the year the second Winter Exhibition was opened by the Mayor. Great additions to the libraries and museum have been made by donation and purchase.

Borough of Leamington Spa Free Public Library. Annual Report, 1884-5. 4to., pp. 4.

During the year the library was removed to a new building where there is better accommodation. The number of books issued during the year was 39,272, against 42,389 in the previous year. In the Reference Library 1,284 persons attended, against 442 in the previous year. Out of a revenue of £650 19s. 11d. the committee expended £620 6s. 2d.

Borough of Middlesbrough. The Annual Report of the Middlesbrough Free Library Committee. Middlesbrough, 1885. 8vo., pp. 14.

The number of books issued from the Lending Library was 91,861, being an increase of 22,250 over the previous year. 966 books were purchased, and the expenditure under the head of buying, repairing, &c., was £382 15s. 10d. The issues for the year were 101,668 as against 69,611, with a total number of 12,307 borrowers. The balance sheet shows an expenditure of £1,053 18s., leaving a balance due to the treasurer of £10 9s.

Borough of Swansea. The Eleventh Annual Report of the Public Library and Gallery of Art Committee. 1884-5. Swansea, 1885. 8vo., pp. 26.

The Library contains 26,467 volumes. In the reference department there are 18,842 volumes. The Committee is indebted to Mr. Deffett Francis, who has presented to the Library altogether 6,920 volumes, of which a special Catalogue is being printed. The issues were in the reference department 81,943, in the lending department 58,695, including the branches.

Borough of West Bromwich. The Eleventh Report of the Free Library Committee November 1885. 8vo., pp. 36.

The stock in the Lending Library has been increased to 10,965, and includes musical works as a new feature, and in the Reference Library to 2,386. During the year 49,868 volumes were issued, the daily average being 218, as against 204 last year; 511 new borrowers have been registered. The reference books consulted numbered 952. The first Annual Meeting of the Subscription Library was held last January. During the year, from this department 2,133 works were issued, while £89 5s. 10d. was received, and £83 19s. 4d. was spent. The rate produced £618 18s. 4d.

Correspondence.

Library Surplusage.

Sir,—As the Librarian of an important and old established (1790) Provincial library, which, besides supplying the more solid kind of literature and works of permanent interest, endeavours also to keep pace with the times by circulating the newest books of passing interest and importance immediately upon publication, I read with great interest Mr. Gilbert's able and vigorous article on "Library Surplusage," and am inclined to think both with him and the aggrieved author of "Literature at Nurse" that the modern three volume novel is an unmitigated nuisance; although so far as the latter is concerned it is probably true that his first book failed from other causes, and not because of the vast monopoly wielded by a mere handful of customers in keeping up the three volume system. A monopoly which I think ought to be broken up, for the benefit of both author and publisher, to say nothing of the creation of small libraries, with but limited income, to meet the popular demand with such a drain upon their resources, as the present regulation prices entails,—16s. 6d. for a trumpery and often indecent three volume novel is simply monstrous. Such libraries as this one and others of similar constitution must purchase at first hand standard works of lasting worth, and to have to purchase every new book for which it often happens a fictitious demand is created, would quickly result, if not in financial ruin, at least in literary starvation. Not one tithe of the novels and the lighter works of travel, can ever hope to live; even 39 in 154 novels published does not represent the writings of thirty-nine separate individuals, because some of our lady novelists give us two or three books in the course of one season, and from the fact that the writer is well known and decidedly popular (Mrs. Oliphant and Miss Braddon to wit) the librarian, I take it, is compelled to place such books on his shelves and, as they are invariably in three volume form, so much the worse for his space. Here, if I may be permitted a criticism, I would say that another evil of the orthodox novel lies in the fact that such a writer as Mrs. Oliphant is quite spoiled. Some of her books if they did not extend beyond one vol. or at the most two, would be perfect specimens of real artistic work. Scarcely one of her later three volume novels can compare with her "Beleaguered City" in this respect. Of course it is probably true that in the event of the publishing world being revolutionised to the extent of issuing popular and readable books, at a price within the reach of the persons who at present subscribe to one or other of the large circulating libraries, the need for their continuance would be materially lessened. It is therefore to their interest that the absurdity should be maintained, but there are also other interests to be considered, and these I commend to the Library Association. Revolutions have happened before and trade monopolies have been broken; and history usually repeats itself when the need arises. The marvel is very frequently, however a respectable publisher can be found for some of the unutterable trash sent forth to the world in three volume form.

The question of "Library Surplusage" does not largely affect the Provincial subscription library such as this one. We simply do on a large scale what our own subscribers do on a very much smaller one, *i. e.* pay a good round sum to one of the "Select" Libraries and get whatever we want and return when done with. A librarian thus situated by judicious and careful selection of his books can influence the reading of his clients in a degree, and thus obviate "his having to dance attendance on silly women and recommend them sillier novels" to any great extent. In the course of twelve months several hundred volumes of the newest books pass through his hands. After the lapse of a very short time, many of these already in constant circulation can be bought wondrously cheap, then guided by the character and worth of the book, and the general current of the demand, the librarian adds a fair proportion to his stock and places them in his catalogue. He is comparatively safe in acquiring the novels of such writers his subscribers mostly affect, and others, that show any special promise and the prospect of being of interest in time to come. At the end of each

year he finds himself the better off by a number of fairly good books, in every class of literature, procured in the aggregate at a very reasonable cost. The fact of many of them being in two or three volumes must be put up with, till such happy times as an alteration is made in the mode of issue.

These remarks and the question generally do not apply to Free Libraries, as the vast majority of their readers are not abreast of the times in the matter of new books; on the whole the world of fiction, for example, to them is represented by a few well known names, and it is well that it is so. It is not the function of a Free Library, so far as I understand it, to pander to a depraved taste and distribute indiscriminately modern fiction: but rather to supply wholesome literature to the masses. For the Free Libraries to buy three volume novels, the hundred and one books of travel, and other "literary crazes," even when cheap as "surplusage," is gross folly and extravagance scarcely to be overlooked. It is done unfortunately. Working class readers do not want such literature as this. When the books likely to be read "ten years hence" are published in a more accessible and less cumbrous form, they can then be placed on the shelves with some show of propriety and reason.

My experience has taught me to frequently wish, that those who crave for *new books* would exercise a little more patience, and not ask for every trashy thing with a catching title and blazing cover, and usually the worst of them receives the greatest amount of "puff," which when supplied is a source of annoyance at its crass stupidity, an annoyance which more often than not finds its vent upon the devoted head of the librarian for placing such insufferable rubbish in circulation.—I am, Sir, yours very faithfully,

F. SHAKESPEARE HERNE.

The Permanent Library, Leicester, *Sept.* 26, 1885.

P.S.—Mr. Gilbert will probably allow one correction. "John Inglesant" was published by Macmillans in 2 vols. demy, at 21s.; the 2 vols. cr. 8vo, 12s. was a new edition. The original edition is now becoming scarce.

DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS TO LIBRARIES.

Hillside Cottage, Hawick.

DEAR SIR, 23 *Nov.* 1885.

I observe that Lord Iddesleigh has written to Mr. Jackson confirming the views he expressed to the deputation of the L. A. U. K. in July.

The arrangement which his Lordship contemplates is not, I think, any advantage. At present there is no difficulty in getting 25 per cent. discount, as there are several agents who compete with each other; and I think it would have been much better had the Government arranged to supply Public Libraries *direct* at the same price they supply their trade agents. The one contractor, whoever he may be, will have a complete monopoly of these publications and be able to keep the price to the public at what he likes, so long as he does not exceed the published price fixed.

My object in writing, is to suggest that the Committee might try and make some better arrangement. If we cannot get them *free*, certainly we ought to have them at the lowest price they are issued to any one at, and not pay an intermediate profit.

I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,

D. WATSON,

Sec. Hawick Public Library.

LIVERPOOL AND DUBLIN VOLUMES.

It is hoped to issue with the next number of the *Chronicle* the concluding sheets of the Liverpool volume. Subscriptions for the volume may now be sent to the treasurer. It will be issued to subscribers at 12s., and will be published at 16s. The Dublin volume will at once be put in hand, and all papers should be forwarded to the secretary without delay.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. DAVY & SONS, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 8*s.*

The Library Chronicle.

THE CATALOGUES OF THE LIBRARY OF THE DUC DE LA VALLIÈRE.

By Richard C. Christie.

THERE is no catalogue of the eighteenth century, and perhaps not one of the nineteenth, which is so often quoted, which contains so much bibliographical information, and which comprises so extensive a collection of books of extraordinary rarity and interest, as that of the portion of the library of the Duc de la Vallière, compiled by De Bure and Van Praet in 1783. After the lapse of a century, the information which it contains is as valuable and indispensable to the book-collector and the librarian as it was the day on which it first appeared; and if the book itself has lost some of its interest, it is only because the greater part of its contents is incorporated in the Bible of the Bibliophile—Brunet's *Manuel*.

The library of the Duc de la Vallière is not less remarkable for its intrinsic value and for its catalogues, than for its librarians and for the bitter quarrel to which the compilation of the principal catalogue gave rise. The name of the Abbé Rive, and his book *La Chasse aux Bibliographes*, is known to every librarian, but it is not so generally known that this book is a bitter attack by the *ci-devant* librarian upon the Duke, his library, his catalogue, and Messrs. De Bure and Van Praet its compilers.

But all these points of interest would not have been sufficient to induce me to write this paper, were it not for the fact that there are no less than five catalogues, three of great though unequal merit, of portions of the Library of the Duc de la Vallière, and as I find that these are perpetually confounded together, and as I know nowhere any account of them, or of their differences, except the brief note of Dibdin in the *Bibliomania*, second edition, p. 130,—which like most of Dibdin's notices is inaccurate and misleading—I have thought that it might be of service to the members of the Library Association, to have an exact and accurate account of the several catalogues, so that they might know which to refer to, and might not in attempting to verify a volume from the Duke's library, waste precious time, or no less precious temper, in a vain search through a wrong catalogue.

Louis-César de la Baume-le-Blanc, Duc de la Vallière, was the great nephew of the charming Duchess, whose amiable qualities and long penitence have placed her on a pedestal to which no other mistress of a king has attained. He was born on 9 October,

1708, and died on 16 November, 1780. Possessed of a great fortune, without ambition, with no great talents, but with a taste for literature and the society of men of letters, he began at an early age to form the great collections which have immortalized his name, and if he was not learned himself he certainly knew how to appreciate learning in others, and showed the most perfect taste and knowledge in forming his library. Manuscripts, books printed on vellum, the *editiones principes* of the Latin and Greek classics, texts and versions of the Bible, Missals, Horæ, early French romances and poetry are to be found in abundance, together with nearly every Greek, Latin, French, and Italian book and edition possessed of intrinsic merit and interest. For forty years he was the chief book-collector in the world, employing agents not only in France, but in England, Holland, and Italy, purchasing the choicest books at every sale of importance, and frequently buying entire collections *en bloc*. Thus he bought the entire libraries of M. Guyon de Sardière, M. Bonnemet, M. Jackson, as well as the more famous library of the D'Urfé family, so celebrated by Duverdier and Le père Jacob ; at the Gaignat sale, he purchased books to the amount of between eighty and ninety thousand livres, many of these being *editiones principes* of the Greek and Latin classics, and books printed on vellum, which he had himself sold to M. Gaignat some years before. At Dr. Askew's sale in London in 1775, De Bure purchased for M. de la Vallière books to the value of upwards of £600, and the Duke thus left at his death a library such as neither before nor since has ever been put together by a single person, and which at the present day no single person, however rich, would find it possible to acquire. Unlike some book collectors, the Duc de la Vallière delighted to exhibit his treasures, and his library was the centre of *réunions*, not only of bibliographers, but of men like Voltaire, Voisenon, Moncrif, and others no less distinguished by literary ability than by their high rank and their general accomplishments. The Duke was an admirable and delightful host, and the discussions which took place on the merits and rarity of different books and editions, are celebrated by more than one contemporary. His successive librarians, Boudot, Marin, and the Abbé Rive, were all men of learning and merit.

The Duc de la Vallière aspired to be a man of letters, as well as a bibliophile ; but we cannot give very high praise to his writings, if, indeed, any of them exist. His verses, collected by Moncrif, in his *Choix de Chansons*, 1757, 12mo, though they were received by the high society of the day with the favour which the poetry of a Duke always obtains, are poor and commonplace ; and it is doubtful whether he or Moncrif was the author of them. The Duke's *Bibliothèque du Théâtre Français depuis son origine*, 1768, 3 vols. 8vo, is a collection of analyses of and extracts from French comedies, of which the first half, treating of the comedies of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, is both entertaining and interesting ; but it is not probable that the Duke took more than a very small share, if any, in the production of the work. According to a MS. note of the Abbé de St. Leger in the copy in the Bibliothèque Nationale, it was the work of St. Leger, Marin, Capperonier and Boudot. Another work inserted under the Duke's name by Quérard in *La France Littéraire* and by Weiss in the *Biographie Universelle—Ballets, Operas et autres lyriques, par ordre chronologique* —would seem to be the book which appears in the catalogue of 1783 (No. 3511) as *Catalogue des Ballets et Operas qui sont dans la Bibliothèque de M. le Duc de la Vallière.*

Purchasing as the Duke did whole libraries *en bloc*, and never resting satisfied until he had obtained the finest possible copy of every rare book, he necessarily acquired a

considerable number of duplicates; and these, with other books which for any reason he ceased to care for, he sold from time to time, when in all probability his great expenditure on his library rendered him in want of money. Thus twenty years before his death he had sold to the King his entire collection of books on Natural History, a collection which formed the foundation of that department in the Bibliothèque Nationale. In 1767, in 1772, and in 1777, sales of some of his books took place. The catalogue of the sale of 1767 is in two volumes, and has the following title:—*Catalogue des Livres provenans de la Bibliothèque de M. L. D. D. L. V.* [Monsieur le Duc de la Vallière] *disposé et mis en ordre, avec une Table Alphabétique des Auteurs, par Guill. Franc. de Bure, le jeune. Paris*, 1767, 8vo. It comprises 5,633 articles, and is, as would be expected from its compiler, in all respects admirable. It contains a considerable number of books of the highest degree of rarity—a copy of the Bible of Fust and Schoeffer of 1462, which one would have thought the Duke would have desired to retain, even though he possessed the fine copy of the same Bible printed on vellum, which he had purchased at the Gaignat sale for 3,200 livres. The copy on paper sold at the sale of 1767 for 2,500 livres,[1] and this is the highest price obtained for any book at this sale, for in general they sold at very small prices even for that day. A copy of the French Bible of Lefevre d'Etaples, printed at Antwerp by Martin l'Emperour in 1530, sold for 25 livres 1 sol, while a copy of that printed at Antwerp by Antoine de la Haye, 1541, only obtained 3 livres; the French Psalter of Lefevre d'Etaples, printed by Simon de Colines in 1523, bound up with a manuscript Psalter of the same date, 1 livre 2 sols; the Marot of Roffet, 1532, 1 livre 15 sols; the Venice Dante (of Peter of Cremona) of 1491, 16 livres 19 sols; and the Lyons Rabelais of 1564, 3 livres.[2] But this collection and this catalogue would have been thought worthy of a very high place among catalogues and collections, if they had not been completely overshadowed by the great collection which the Duke left at his death. It is, however, this catalogue of 1767 that is very frequently confused with *the* La Vallière catalogue—*i.e.*, that of 1783; and though the catalogue of 1767 ought to find a place in every large library, and will be found frequently useful for reference, yet every librarian must beware of confusing it with its more celebrated namesake, and when a book is cited from the La Vallière catalogue he must satisfy himself that this is not the catalogue from which it comes. The two other catalogues of sales—*Catalogue des livres de M. . . . par De Bure fils aîné*, 1772, 8vo, and *Catalogue des Livres provenans de la Bibliothèque de M. L. D. D. L. V.*, 1777, 8vo, need not detain us; they contained much smaller collections of books than that of 1767, and are not so frequently met with or quoted, yet each of them contains books of rarity and interest.

At the time of the death of the Duc de la Vallière, the position of his librarian was held by one of the most learned bibliographers of the day, the Abbé Rive. He had filled the office of librarian to the Duke for twelve years, and it cannot be denied that the perfection and importance of the library owed much to his care. But he was also, unfortunately, one of the most spiteful and cantankerous of men. It says much for

[1] The same copy sold at the Crevenna sale in 1790 for 1,460 florins; a copy at D'Ourches' sale, 1811, 2,101 francs; Willett, £105; Duke of Sussex, £170. According to Brunet, there are forty copies on vellum and only about twenty on paper.

[2] It would almost seem as if the Bible of 1541, the Psalter of 1523, and the Rabelais of 1564, all of them books now eagerly sought after, and which fetch large prices whenever they appear, were turned out of the library as mere rubbish, for no copies of them are to be found in the library left by the Duke at his death.

the good nature and good temper of the Duke that he had been so long without quarrelling with his librarian. Upon the death of the Duke, and upon the determination of his only child and heiress, the Duchesse de Châtillon, to dispose of the library, the Abbé Rive fully expected to be entrusted with the preparation of the catalogue, but his utter want of method and order, and the confusion in which the Duchess found the library, as well as the fact that during the long period of his librarianship he had prepared little more than a mere fragment of a catalogue, decided her to entrust the work to more able and experienced hands, and Guillaume De Bure, the cousin and partner of the author of the *Bibliographie Instructive*, was entrusted with the charge of preparing the catalogue and selling the library. He obtained the assistance for the MSS. of J. B. B. Van Praet, who was then young, but who afterwards obtained so high eminence as a bibliographer and as keeper of the printed books of the Bibliothèque Nationale. The two selected the 5,668 articles of the Duke's library which appeared to them the most valuable and the most interesting, and the catalogue appeared in 1783. It fills three volumes, which to be complete should contain the following:—Vol. I. A portrait of the Duc de la Vallière as a frontispiece; an *avertissement* of 35 pp., the last numbered xxxiii *ter*; then talbes of *divisions* and *explications*, extending to p. lxiv; seventy-one pages of additions, numbered 1–71; 602 pp. for the catalogue itself (numbered 1–602), followed by a supplement of x + 90 pages. There should be a folding plate, representing the torments of hell, opposite p. 255. The second volume has 758 pp., besides five leaves of fac-similes. The third volume has 388 pp. for the text of the catalogue, besides a folding leaf of a fac-simile, and should be followed by 376 pp., containing a table of names of authors, engravers, painters, writers, and the titles of their works; a second table of anonymous works, pp. 1–92, and a list of prices, 42 pp., followed by a page containing two notes. These volumes, says Gustave Brunet (Le Bibliophile Français, tom. 3, p. 67), "sont fort recherchés, fort appréciés de tous les amateurs. Nulle trace de charlatanisme; point d'assertions hasardées, de recommandations emphatiques, mais des descriptions exactes, suffisantes, sans développements superflus."

This catalogue forms a necessary supplement to the *Bibliographie Instructive*, and the catalogue *Gaignat*, and the three together form the most ample and accurate bibliographical manual which had appeared until the great work of Brunet. Yet, though I describe it as a supplement to the *Bibliographie Instructive*, the La Vallière catalogue is in every respect but one—the number of articles—a far more important and useful bibliographical work. Meritorious as is the *Bibliographie Instructive*, and greatly superior as it is to any bibliographical work published up to that date, yet dealing, as he does, with the whole of literature, the author necessarily describes numerous books which he had not seen, and for which he was obliged to content himself with the often erroneous and careless descriptions of others; and the result is, as in the case of every other book of the kind, even Brunet, that it is full of errors and inaccuracies. But in the La Vallière catalogue, every article actually passed through the hands of the compiler, and every description was written with the book before him; the result is a remarkably accurate description, and singularly few errors, and in many cases the descriptions given subsequently in Brunet's *Manuel* are taken almost *verbatim* from those in this catalogue. The most elaborate and valuable part is, however, the description of the manuscripts written by Van Praet. Here we have not merely a catalogue, but a complete and exhaustive description of every manuscript of importance,

with most interesting and valuable details concerning their authors, scribes and illuminators, with full information as to the contents of the manuscripts themselves, forming, especially as to the French manuscripts, a most important contribution to the literary history of France during the Middle Ages. The sale commenced on 12 January, 1784, and continued to 5 May. It excited the greatest enthusiasm among collectors, not only in France but throughout the rest of Europe, and what was a most unusual event at that time, English booksellers and agents attended it. No such sale had hitherto taken place, and it is not too much to say that the bibliomania for which our countrymen became so celebrated a few years after, took its rise from the La Vallière sale. The books fetched higher prices than had ever before been known. The 5,668 lots realised 464,677 livres (about £18,585) a sum which then seemed enormous, yet M. Gustave Brunet (*Le Bibliophile Français*, p. 68) states that a similar collection of books would then (1869) fetch five or six millions of francs, *i.e.* more than £200,000; but in the quarter of a century which has since elapsed prices of rare books have so greatly increased, that comparing the prices in or about 1869, with those obtained at the Didot, Sunderland, Beckford, and Syston Park Sales, a very much larger sum would have been obtained at this time. Certainly the prices which astonished contemporaries as enormous strike us at the present day as ridiculously small. Only fourteen lots realized over 2,000 livres, and of these eight were manuscripts. The highest price was for a manuscript *La Guirlande de Julie* (No. 3247), ornamented with flowers and miniatures, painted by Robert, which realised 14,510 livres. The only printed books above 2,000 livres were the following. The Bible of 1462 on vellum, which sold for 4,085 livres;[1] the *Rationale* of Durandus, Fust and Schoeffer, 1459, on vellum, 2,700 livres;[2] the *Christianismi Restitutio* of Servetus, 1553, 4,120 livres;[3] the *Catholicon* of Balbus de Janua, Fust and Schoeffer, 1460, on vellum, 2,001 livres;[4] (two other copies were in this La Vallière sale, and were sold, one described as *gâté* for 85 livres, the other for 975 livres); the Virgil of Sweynheym and Pannartz, *s.d.* but 1469, first impression, wanting two folios (not *one* as stated by Brunet), 4101 livres;[5] and Caumartin's *Récherches de la Noblesse de Champagne*, 1673, on vellum, 7,601 livres.[6]

On the other hand, the *Museum Florentinum* of A. F. Gori, 1731–66, which realized

[1] No. 28. The Duke had given 3,200 francs for it at the Gaignat sale, and the same copy afterwards appeared successively in the MacCarthy sale, where it sold for 4,750 francs; Watson Taylor (1823), £215. 5s.; Dent (1825), £173.; and was bought at the Perkins' sale in 1873, for £780. by Quaritch. The Sunderland copy sold for £1600. and the Syston Park copy for £1,000.

[2] No. 214. This copy of the *Rationale* is now in the Imperial Library of Vienna. It had cost the Duke, 1,050 francs at the Gaignat sale. Van Praet enumerates more than forty copies printed on vellum; one of these was in the Sunderland collection (No. 4,154) and was purchased by Quaritch for £790.

[3] No. 913. This volume was then believed to be unique, and is so described in the catalogue. It had passed by exchange from Dr. Mead to De Boze, then it fell into the hands of De Cotte, who sold it to Gaignat. At the Gaignat sale it was bought by the Duc de la Vallière for 3,810 livres, together with a fragment of a MS. of Servetus. It passed from the La Vallière collection into the Bibliothèque du Roi (Nationale), where it still remains. A second copy is in the library of Vienna.

[4] No. 2,199. Bought by the Duke at the Gaignat sale for 1,222 francs. It was afterwards sold at the MacCarthy sale for 2,620 francs, to Mr. Grenville, and is now in the British Museum. A copy was bought at the Solar sale (1860), by Quaritch for 12,450 francs. Of impressions on paper the Solar copy sold for 1,010 francs, the Sunderland, £285., and the Syston Park, £400.

[5] No. 2,432. Bought for the Bibliothèque du Roi. No copy has since been offered for sale.

[6] No. 5,420. Now in the Library of the Arsenal.

1,200 livres, sold in 1858 for 375 francs. The Appian of 1478 sold for 1,000 livres; a copy at the Syston Park sale only realized £16 5s.

But perhaps the most interesting lots are those which fetched, even for that time, small sums, and have since risen to many times their then value. A copy of the *Internelle Consolation*, 1539, sold for 1 livre 4 sols; a copy of the same book in Monmerqué's sale fetched 58 francs, and the value, according to the Supplement to Brunet, is now from 60 to 80 francs. *La Chronicque et hystoire singulière* du Chevalier Mabrian, 1530, fetched 19 livres 15 sols; the *Manuel* records the successive sales of this copy, at higher and higher prices, until it reached 1,550 francs at the sale of M. Leopold Double, upwards of seventy-seven times as much as it was sold for in 1783. A copy of *Le Livre de Baudoyn*, Lyon, 1478, which sold for 175 livres 1 sol, sold at the Solar sale for 4,300 francs. A copy of Verard's edition of *La Fleur des Batailles* of Doolin de Mayence, with the arms of Count Hoym, which sold at his sale for 9 livres 19 sols, was resold at the La Vallière sale for 40 livres, and again at the Solar sale for 1,000 francs. The *Rymes* of Pernette du Guillet, Lyon, 1545, sold for 3 livres 1 sol; a copy was bought by M. Yemeniz in 1850 for 1,005 francs, and sold at his sale for 2,900 francs. The *Doctrinal du temps présent* of Michault (*s. d.* but about 1480) sold for 33 livres; a copy (probably the same) has since sold at the following prices:—Heber, £23 10s.; Essling, 1,000 francs; Libri, £23; Yemeniz, 2,795 francs. *Les quatre fils d'Aymon* (Lyon, about 1480) in the catalogue (No. 4,036), under the title of *Histoire du Chevalier Montauban*, sold for 118 livres, and resold at the Roxburghe sale for £32 11s.; Essling, 996 francs; Yemeniz, 5,000 francs; a copy of another edition (Lyon, 1493) sold for 20 livres, and resold at the Solar sale for 1,000 francs.

A considerable number of the finest books found their way to England to the collection of George III., and now form part of the British Museum library. Among them, besides the *Catholicon* already mentioned, was the magnificent MS. Missal according to the Sarum use (No. 273) prepared for John Duke of Bedford, but not quite completed at his death in 1435. It sold for 5,000 livres.

It is not to be supposed that either the catalogue or the sale was received with enthusiasm by the Abbé Rive. Nothing could exceed his chagrin and mortification at not being selected to prepare the one or to superintend the other, and as soon as the catalogue appeared, he printed a severe and bitter attack upon De Bure and Van Praet, in the form of a prospectus of an intended work, intituled, "Essai sur l'art de vérifier l'âge des Miniatures peintes dans les Manuscrits depuis la quatorzième jusqu'au dix-septième siecle inclusivement," in which he "devotes to the rods of the critics and the laughter of the public the bibliopoles who presume to catalogue and sell MSS. which they do not understand," and comments most unfairly on the catalogue, the notes and the authors. The attack was answered with the greatest moderation and courtesy by De Bure and Van Praet in the *Avertissement* which I have noticed as prefixed to the first volume of the catalogue, in which the tables are turned on the Abbé Rive, and his own shortcomings as a bibliographer and a scholar are exposed. Six years later, in 1789, the Abbé repeated and amplified his attacks in *La Chasse aux Bibliographes et antiquaires mal-advisés*, in which he rakes together everything that the most vindictive spite can suggest, not only concerning the two bibliographers and their catalogue, but concerning his late patron, the Duc de la Vallière, and, indeed, all others whom he deemed his enemies, or who had any part in the slight which he conceived had been put upon him. Although the book is stated on

the title-page to be by "un des élèves de M. l'Abbé Rive," it is really by the Abbé himself, and is the only one of his books which at this day preserves its value or interest, for undoubtedly, in spite of all its vindictive bitterness, or, perhaps, partly owing to this, it is a book full of interest to all bibliophiles and bibliographers, as well as of no little use for elucidating some obscure points in literary history. But the bitter and spiteful criticisms of the Abbé Rive, which can only be equalled by those of the Père Garasse, Scioppius, and others of the gladiators of letters of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, only recoiled on their author, and injured neither the reputation of De Bure and Van Praet, nor that of the catalogue of which they were the authors.

There remains to be noticed the larger part of the library left by the Duke which was not included in the catalogue of 1783. This was entrusted to the bookseller Nyon, a bibliographer inferior indeed to the De Bures, but of considerable experience and ability. The catalogue appeared in 1784, in six large volumes comprising 26,537 articles, under the following title, *Catalogue des Livres de la Bibliothèque de feu M. Le Duc de la Vallière, seconde partie, disposée par Jean-Luc Nyon l'aîné.* The notes are few and the absence of an index of authors' names, makes it not easy to consult, especially as Nyon has adopted in part a new system of classification, differing in several respects from that which was then and has ever since been in use among the French bibliographers. This new system may have had its advantages in the case of the particular collection under notice, but is certainly confusing, and will hardly commend itself as one suited for general adoption. The greater number of the books are not distinguished by the same degree of rarity or bibliographical interest as those comprised in the catalogue of 1783, but they include a very large number of works on French topography, and the most extensive collection that has ever been formed of French and Italian poets and romances. Among them are many works which at the present day are absolutely *introuvable.* It was intended to complete this catalogue by an index of authors, and a printed list of the prices obtained for the volumes at the contemplated sale, but before the auction took place, the library was sold *en bloc* to the Marquis de Paulmy, and was added to the already enormous collection of books, from which he (or rather Contant D'Orville) compiled the great work to which the Marquis's name is attached, *Mélanges tirés d'une grande Bibliothèque*, 70 volumes, Paris, 1779-84. In 1785, M. de Paulmy sold his library to the Comte D'Artois, reserving however the use of the books for his life. He died in 1787 and, when two years later the Comte D'Artois emigrated, the library was taken possession of by the State, and formed the foundation of the library of the Arsenal, at present consisting of between two and three hundred thousand volumes, and containing the richest collection of French poets, dramatists and romances that anywhere exists, including many works of the highest rarity, and of some the only copies known. Nor is the library of the Arsenal less rich in some important departments of history. It also contains above 6,000 manuscripts. An excellent manuscript catalogue has been lately compiled—the old one was full of errors—and has added greatly to the utility of the library.

OUTLINE OF A NEW SCHEME OF CLASSIFICATION APPLICABLE TO BOOKS. By J. J. Ogle.

	Treatises.	Histories and Historical Criticism.	Biographies and Personal Criticism.
Knowledge is imparted by means of Language	AA Philology and Rhetoric. Grimm: *Deutsches Woerterbuch.*	AE Philology. Benfey: *Geschichte der Sprachwissenschaft.*	AI Linguists. Teignmouth: *Life of Sir W. Jones.*
and relates to GOD	BA Theology and Religion. Max Mueller: *Sacred Books of the East.*	BE Ecclesiastical. Neander: *Church History.*	BI Churchmen, Founders of Religions, &c. Strype: *Memorials of Cranmer.*
,, to MAN as a social being;	CA Sociology (Politics, Law, Commerce, &c.). Cobbett: *Porcupine's Works.* Political Geography and Travel. A. Young: *Six Months' Tour through the North of England.*	CE Commercial, Legal, National, Topographical. Yeats: *Technical History of Commerce.*	CI Statesmen, Social Reformers, &c. Morley: *Life of Richard Cobden.*
as an individual with a mind;	DA Mental and Moral Science, Logic. Locke: *Essay on the Human Understanding.*	DE Philosophy. Lange: *History of Materialism.*	DI Philosophers, Metaphysicians, &c. Lewes: *Aristotle.*
creating;	EA Prose Fiction, Poetry and the Drama. Swinburne: *Atalanta in Calydon.*	EE Fiction, Poetry, the Drama. Dunlop: *History of Fiction.*	EI Novelists, Poets, Dramatists. Cross: *Life of George Eliot.*
,, with a body. (See Natural Sciences.)	FA Painting, Sculpture, Music & other Fine Arts. Tyrwhitt: *Pictorial Art.*	FE Fine Arts. Sandby: *History of the Royal Academy.*	FI Painters, Sculptors, &c. Cunningham: *British Painters.*
,, to NATURE, the never-living;	GA Mathematics, Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry, and Metallurgy. Todhunter: *Spherical Trigonometry.*	GE Mathematics, &c. Gow: *History of Greek Mathematics.*	GI Mathematicians, Astronomers, &c. Babbage: *Passages from the Life of a Philosopher.*
the living, or once-living.	HA Natural Sciences (Geology, Botany, &c.). Geikie: *Text-book of Geology.* Non-Political Geography and Travel. Waterton: *Wanderings in S. America.*	HE Natural Sciences. Buckley: *Short History of Natural Science.*	HI Naturalists, Physiologists, &c. Smiles: *Scotch Naturalist.*
	JA Applied Science, Industrial Art & Medicine. Watts: *Soap Making.*	JE Manufactures and Inventions. Beckmann: *History of Inventions.*	JI Inventors, Merchants, &c. Smiles: *Lives of the Engineers.*
Works too general for any of the preceding classes are included in	KA Encyclopædias, General Magazines, and Unclassed Literature. Goldsmith: *Essays.*	KE Newspapers and Encyclopædic Literature. Madden *Periodical Literature.*	KI Journalists & others not elsewhere classified. Chalmers: *Biographical Dictionary.*

Note.—The following short titles for the several classes are suggested: A Word Knowledge; B Religious Knowledge; C Social Knowledge; D Mind Knowledge; E Art Knowledge (Literary); F Art Knowledge (Non-Literary); G Nature Knowledge (Non-Biological); H Nature Knowledge (Biological); J Industrial Knowledge; K General Knowledge.

THE BARKERS AND THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE BIBLE-PATENT.

By Henry R. Tedder.

For nearly a century after the first introduction of the art of typography into this country the right of printing the Scriptures was open to any person who was able to obtain a royal license, and had never been specially attached to the office of King's or Queen's printer. The Bible-monopoly dates from the reign of Elizabeth. In 1573 she granted a patent of privilege, or the right of disposing of certain licenses, to Francis Flower, "as Her Majesty's printer of the Latin," which was farmed out by him to Vautrollier and others; and about the year 1575, Sir Thomas Wilkes, Ambassador to France, Holland and Germany, had a patent as her printer of the English tongue. The Universities still maintained their privileged printers and the right of reproducing the Bible. The printing monopolies granted from the period of her accession gave rise to one of the earliest and most interesting documents connected with the book-producing trade of this country. This was a representation to the Crown of their grievances, signed by 47 stationers and printers in the name of 140 others, presented to Lord Burghley about August, 1577, and was as follows:—

"The priviledges latelie granted by her Maiestie vnder her highnes greate seale of England to the persons here vnder written Conserninge the arte of printing of bookes hath and will be the overthrowe of the Printers and Stacioners within this Cittie being in number . 175 . Besides their wyves children apprentizes and families, and thereby th[e]xcessive prices of bookes preiudiciall to the state of the whole Realme besides the false printinge of the same

"John Jugge besides the beinge her Maiesties printer hath gotten the priuiledge for the printing of *Bibles* and *Testamentes* the which was common to all ye printers

"Richard Tothill the printinge of all kindes of *lawe bookes*, which was common to all Printers / who selleth the same bookes at excessiue prices to the hinderance of a greate nomber of pore studentes

"John Daye the printinge of A.B.C: and *Catechismes* with the sole selling of them by the collour of A Commission. These bookes were the onelie Releif of the porest sort of that companie

"James Robertes and Richard Watkyns the printinge of all *Alminacks* and *Pronosticacons* the which was the onelie releif of the most porest of ye printers

"Thomas Marshe hath a great licence for *latten bookes vsed in the gramer scoles of Englande*, the which was the generall livinge of the whole Companie of Stacioners /

"Thomas Vautroller a stranger hathe the sole printinge of other *latten bookes*, as *newe Testament* and others

"One Byrde a Singingman hathe a licence for printinge of all Musicke bookes / and by that meanes he claimeth the printing of ruled paper /

"William Seres hath priviledge for the printinge of all *psalters* / all manner of *Prymers* englisshe or latten / and all manner of *prayer bookes*, with the Reuercon of the same to his sonne / Who giveth himself not to our trade

"ffraunces fflower a gentleman beinge none of our Companye hath privilidg for printinge *the Gramer* and other thinges / and hathe farmed it oute to some of the

Companie for one hundred poundes by the yere / which C^li^ is raised to the inhaunsinge of the prices above th[e] accustumed order /."[1]

The petition is also signed by 10 other persons, being "the names of all suche as do lyve by bookeselling being free of other companies & also hindered by the said privilidges" . . . "besides a nomber of Jorneymen and apprentices of Theirs." One of the former of these was Christopher Barker, afterwards the famous Queen's printer. He was born about 1529, and is said to have been the grand-nephew of Sir Christopher Barker, Garter King-at-Arms, and appears to have had some fortune. He was originally a member of the Drapers' Company, and began to publish books in 1569. He was not then a member of the Company of Stationers and did not own a press. In 1575 the Genevan Bible was first printed in England, both in quarto and octavo, as well as two editions of Whittingham's New Testament, all by Vautrollier for Barker. He then seems to have seriously devoted himself to bookselling, as in the same year Middleton printed for him two editions of Gascoigne's *Glasse of Government*, with a preface stating that "this worke is compiled upon these sentences following set down by mee, C.B.," which indicates that the publisher had himself given a certain editorial supervision to the book. They were for sale "at the signe of the Grassehopper." Barker began to print himself in the following year, when he produced two different versions of the Bible, each "Imprinted at London by Christopher Barkar (*sic*) dwelling in Powles Churchyard at the signe of the tygres head." One was the revision of Laurence Tomson, under-secretary to Sir Francis Walsingham, in whose service Barker had been, and whose armorial bearing was the tiger's head thenceforward used by the printer. We have seen how Barker had joined in the remonstrance against the trade-monopolies, but two years later he himself was in the ranks of the privileged. On September 28, 1577, he purchased from Sir Thomas Wilkes a very extensive patent, including the right of printing the Old and New Testament in English, with or without notes, of whatsoever translation. He was thereby appointed Queen's Printer. It may be well to remember that this was merely a commercial transaction between two private individuals, and that the patent was never given with any view to procure fine or accurate editions of the Scriptures, although by a legal fiction the deed specified that it was granted on account of Barker's great improvements in printing, an art in which he had only been practically engaged for one year. All the subsequent Bible-patents take their rise from this, but it is certainly a remarkable fact that from that time to the present day nearly every one of the most beautiful and exact editions of the English Bible has been produced by persons other than the various holders of the patent.

Barker was not made free of the Stationers' Company until June 4, 1578. He was admitted to the Livery on the 25th of the same month. In December, 1582, as Warden of the Company, he addressed to the Lord Treasurer a petition which contains a very interesting account of the Company and of the publishing trade, together with a report on the printing patents granted between 1558 and that date. It is a series of complaints of encroachments by others upon the rights of individual members of the Company. Speaking of himself, he states: "Myne owne office of her Ma^ties^ Printer of the Englishe tongue gyven to Mr. Wilkes, is abbridged of the cheefest co̅modities

[1] This and other documents (some of which will be made use of later on), were presented to Queen Elizabeth's favourite Minister, Lord Burghley, and were first printed by Sir Henry Ellis (*Archæologia*, 1834, xxv. pp. 100-12). See also Arber's *Transcript of the Registers of Company of Stationers*, 1875, i. pp. 111, 114-6, 144.

belonging to the office as shall hereafter appeare in the patents of Mr. Seres and Mr. Daye, but as it is I have the printing of the Olde and New Testament, the Statutes of the Realme, Proclamations, and the Booke of Common Prayer by name and in generall words all matters for the Churche. The benefit of the Booke of Common Prayer is very small, by reason of Mr. Seres his patent as will appeare in the same. The Statutes of the Realme wholy as they were enacted in the Parliament, are alreadye printed by dyvers my predicessors in so great nombers that there need be no more printed these twentye yeres or more, so that when her Ma^tie^ is to be served of them in any Her Highnes Courts or otherwise I am dryven to buy them of others. The abridgement of the Statutes (by reason of a Contract made by Mr. Jugge unto Mr. Tottle) I am awarded by the Company to have but half the benefitt during his lief, though they be printed in my name onelie. Proclamations come on the suddayne and must be returned printed in hast. Wherefore by breaking of greater worke I loose oftentymes more by one Proclamation than I gayne by sixe, before my servants can come in trayne of their worke agayne, and in many yeres there hapeneth not one Proclamation of any benefit at all. The Paraphrasis of Erasmus upon the Epistles and Gospells, with the boke of Homilies, I offer to as many as will print them geving me good assuraunce for the true imprinting thereof that I may be blameless. Testaments alone are not greatlie commodious, by reason the prices are so small as will scarcely beare the charges. The whole Bible together requireth so great a some of money to be employed in the imprinting thereof, as Mr. Jugge kept the Realme twelve yere withoute before he durste aduenture to print one impression, but I considering the great some I paide to Mr. Wilkes, did (as some have termed it since) gyve a desperate aduenture to imprint four sundry impressions for all ages, wherein I employed to the value of three thousand pounds in the time of one yere and an halfe or thereaboute, in which tyme if I had died, my wife and children had been utterlie undone, and manie of my friends greatlie hindered by disbursing round somes of money for me, by suertiship and other meanes, as did my late good Master Mr. Secretary [Walsingham] did for me; so that nowe this gappe being stopped, I have little or nothing to do, but aduenture a needlesse charge, to keep many Jornemen in worke, most of them servantes to my predecessors" (*Archæologia*, xxv. 106-7). Barker then worked five presses, being more than any other craftsman, except Wolfe. There were in London at that time twenty-three printers, owning fifty-three presses, a number more than doubly sufficient, in Barker's opinion, for the wants of all England and Scotland. Between 1580 and 1586 business had fallen to a very unprosperous condition. The smaller printers systematically produced privileged books, a practice specially animadverted upon in the petition just quoted. Eventually some of the richer members of the Company agreed to give up certain copyrights for the benefit of their poorer brethren. Between 1575 and 1588 Barker produced thirty-eight editions or parts of the Bible. From 1588 he retired to his country house at Datchet near Windsor, and carried on business by deputies, George Bishop and Ralph Newbery. Thirty-four editions were printed by them down to the death of Barker in 1599.

On the disgrace of Wilkes in 1589, Christopher Barker obtained (8 August) an exclusive patent from the Queen for the lives of himself and his son Robert, embracing "all and sundry the Statutes, Books, Pamphlets, Acts of Parliament, Proclamations, Injunctions, as of Bibles and New Testaments of all sorts, of whatsoever translation in the English tongue . . . imprinted or to be imprinted . . . also of all books for the service of God." (*Egerton MS.*, No. 1835, f. 167.)

Robert, son of Christopher Barker, was made free of the Stationers' Company, *per patrimonium*, June 25, 1589, and during the life of his father carried on business with the deputies, Bishop and Newbery, with whom, in 1592-3, he brought out the Latin Bible edited by Fr. Junius. The patent of 1589 mentioned above was formally recognised by the Court of Assistants of the Company on January 3, 1599-1600, and the first Bible which bears the separate imprint of Robert is a quarto of the Genevan version, brought out in 1600. In 1603 Robert Barker had a special license "to print all statutes and libels for life," and in the following year, in reversion after John Morton, one "to print all books in Latin, Greek and Hebrew, Trimelius' Latin Bible, and all charts and maps." His most important transaction was the publication of the first edition of the Authorised Version of the English Bible in 1611. Two handsome folio editions were produced in that year. King James, contrary to the usual belief expressed in Lord Mansfield's well-known judgment, never paid anything towards the cost of the revision. Indeed, there is every reason to think that the expense fell entirely upon the printer. William Ball, writing forty years afterwards (*Treatise concerning the regulating of Printing*, 1651, p. 27), states: "I conceive the sole printing of the Bible, and Testament, with power of restraint in others, to be of right the propriety of one Matthew Barker, citizen and stationer of London, in regard that his father paid for the amended or corrected translation of the Bible £3,500: by reason whereof the translated copy did of right belong to him and his assignes." The original MS. of the version is said by an unknown pamphleteer (*The London Printer, his lamentation*, 1660) to have been wrongfully retained by the Barker family. It has never since been heard of.

King James I., on May 10, 1603, granted the reversion of the office of King's Printer (and Bible-patent) for life to Christopher, son of Robert Barker, with a proviso that if Christopher should die before his father, then his heirs and assigns should have it for four years after his father's death. On 11 February, 1617, the patent was granted to Robert II. and to Christopher for thirty years from the death of Robert I. The rights were assigned by the Barkers to Bonham Norton and John Bill in 1627, and confirmed by Charles I. July 20 of that year. In 1635, September 26, the King granted the office to Charles and Matthew Barker, sons of Robert I., after the expiration of the four years to Christopher's heirs and the thirty years to Robert II. Robert I,[1] to whom Elizabeth had granted the office for life in 1589, fell into difficulties and died in the King's Bench Prison, January 10, 1645, so that the four years to be enjoyed after his father's death by Christopher extended to January 10, 1649. The term of Robert II. began January 10, 1649, and came to an end on January 10, 1679. On December 24, 1675, the same patent was granted to Thomas Newcomb and Henry Hills for thirty years, commencing after the expiration of the various terms granted to

[1] He had five sons, Christopher, Robert, Francis, Charles and Matthew, of whom the first, second and last were printers. Besides his publication of the first edition of the Authorised Version, Robert Barker has another claim to the respect of bibliographers as the printer of the famous "Wicked Bible," in which "Thou shalt commit adultery" (Exod. xx. 14) is made to do duty for the seventh commandment. This was merely the most startling of many gross errors. The book was printed by "R. Barker . . . and the assignes of John Bill [*i.e.* Martin Lucas]" in 1631, 8vo. The Star Chamber fined Barker £200 and Lucas £100, and ordered that all copies issued should be returned, in order that the faulty sheets might be cancelled. The payment of the fines was to be remitted if the printers would set up a fount of Greek type. For the next nine or ten years the fines were respited over and over again, and it is extremely improbable that the money was ever paid at all.

Charles and Matthew Barker, which began January 10, 1679, and came to an end January 10, 1709. The office of King's Printer and the Bible-patent had therefore been retained in the Barker family from 1577 to 1709, or a period of 132 years. As we have seen, a term of thirty years had been granted to Newcomb and Hills in 1675, in addition to the grants conferred upon the Barkers, but these patentees survived the grant but a short time, their rights being assigned by the executors to John Baskett and some others. In 1713 Benjamin Tooke and John Barber were constituted Queen's Printers for a term of thirty years, to commence at the term included in Baskett's purchase, that is, January 10, 1739. Baskett bought from Tooke and Barber their reversionary interest, and obtained a renewal of sixty years, the half of which was subsequently conveyed by the representatives of the Baskett family to Charles Eyre and his heirs for £10,000. A new patent was granted in 1799 to George Ayre, Andrew Strahan and John Reeves; it has been renewed more than once, and has come in process of time into the hands of its present possessors, Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode.

The name of Baskett deserves a concluding paragraph. John Baskett is to be honoured as the producer of the famous "Vinegar Bible" (Oxford, 1717-16, 2 vols. imperial folio), of which the large paper makes one of the most magnificent specimens of English typography—worthy even of a place by the side of a Baskerville. The title is derived from an error in the headline of St. Luke, ch. xx., which runs "The parable of the vinegar," instead of "The parable of the vineyard." Unfortunately it is so carelessly printed as to have also been styled "A Baskett-full of printers' errors." A duodecimo New Testament of 1742 is the last book which is known to bear the imprint of John Baskett, who died June 22, 1742. His sons Thomas and Robert printed the Old Testament in 1743. After 1744 the name of Thomas alone appears, and continues down to 1769. "Mark Baskett and the assigns of Robert Barker" printed two quarto Bibles at London in 1761 and 1763, and a folio Prayer Book, 1766. With the name of Mark Baskett is connected a strange bibliographical riddle. We read in the *History of Printing in America* (see 2nd ed. i., pp. 107-8, 123) of Isaiah Thomas, who is our chief and most trusted authority on the subject, that: "Kneeland and Green printed [at Boston, about 1752], principally for Daniel Henchman, an edition of the Bible in small quarto. *This was the first Bible printed in America in the English language.* It was carried through the press as privately as possible, and had the London inprint of the copy from which it was reprinted, viz. 'London: printed by Mark Baskett, printer to the King's most excellent Majesty,' in order to prevent a prosecution." Thomas declares that he had often heard the story told while he was an apprentice, and that "the late Governor Handcock was related to Henchman, and knew the particulars of the transaction. He possessed a copy of this impression," of which between seven and eight hundred are said to have been struck off. Thomas also states that a duodecimo New Testament had also been printed at Boston by Rogers & Fowle in the same disguised manner. "Both the Bible and Testament were well executed." "Zachariah Fowle, with whom I served my apprenticeship, as well as several others, repeatedly mentioned to me this edition of the Testament. He was at the time a journeyman with Rogers & Fowle, and worked at the press." This is certainly a remarkable story, and one very difficult to believe. It is told in a minute and circumstantial manner, but neither Thomas himself, or any bibliographer since, has yet seen either of the books. No Bible of the date of 1752 from the press of

Mark Baskett can be traced. O'Callaghan therefore refused to include either of the supposed editions in his careful *List of editions of the Holy Scriptures printed in America*, Albany, 1860. On the other hand, there are some persons who still believe the fiction, and if one could find any edition of the Bible printed by Mark Baskett in 1752, and with some evidence of an American *provenance*, he could depend upon getting a very handsome price for it.

OPENING OF THE FREE LIBRARY AT DARLINGTON.

THE Free Library at Darlington, the opening of which on October 23rd we briefly chronicled in our last number, when we gave an account of the building, owes its origin to a bequest by the late Mr. Edward Pease of the sum of £10,000 to his fellow townsmen for educational purposes.

The Library was opened by Viscountess Lymington, the daughter of the founder, and the occasion was observed as a general holiday. At noon a procession of the municipal authorities and invited guests was formed at the Town Hall. When the library building was reached, the formal deed of conveyance was handed to the Mayor (Mr. J. B. Hodgkin) by Sir Joseph W. Pease, M.P., who said that his brother, Mr. Arthur Pease, and himself, as trustees of the sum left by his brother, Mr. Edward Pease, had thought that the money could not be better applied than in the establishment of a library. The Mayor acknowledged the gift on behalf of the town, and handed the key to Lady Lymington, who then opened the door and declared the building open. Mr. Councillor Stevenson, as chairman of the Library Committee, moved a vote of thanks to Lady Lymington, and referred to the efforts of Mr. Edward Pease to secure the adoption of the Libraries Acts by the town some years ago, which were then unsuccessful. Addresses were also delivered by Viscount Lymington, M.P., and Mr. Theodore Fry, M.P. (who unveiled a bust of Mr. Edward Pease), Mr. Arthur Pease, M.P., and others.

The Mayor gave a luncheon to the guests, and amongst the speakers were Mr. Fry, Mr. Stevenson, Sir Joseph Pease, and Lord Lymington. Mr. Stevenson referred to the "very robust assistance which the Library Committee had received from their librarian;" and Mr. F. J. Burgoyne (the librarian) and Mr. W. J. Haggerston (of Newcastle) responded to the toast of "The Librarians," which was proposed by Mr. Thomas Hodgkin, D.C.L.

In the evening a crowded meeting was held in the Mechanics' Institute, and addresses were delivered, amongst others, by the Bishop of Durham, Lord Lymington, Mr. Theodore Fry, and Dr. Hodgkin, after which they also addressed an overflow meeting held at the Friends' Meeting-house.

The BISHOP, after congratulating the town upon the acquisition of the library, and his sympathy with its objects, said: I intend, by your permission, to say a few words to you as a reader to readers. I ought not, indeed, to call myself a reader now. I was a reader of books in past times—alas, that I should have to speak of it so! I feel afraid that I am gradually becoming the most ignorant person in my diocese. Now a library has been given to you, how shall you use it? Knowledge is power, that is a very true saying; but power in itself is not beneficence. Power is simply a machine which may be used for beneficent ends or not. Behind this power there must be conscientiousness, there must be principle, there must be grace. How, then, as readers, shall you make most profitable use of this library! Well, a catalogue was placed in my hands, and I found from this catalogue that you will have a very large assortment of daily papers, magazines, and other periodicals, an assortment which I venture to think is practically inexhaustible. I do not deter you from spending time on these. It is very necessary that you should be acquainted with the men and things around you, and therefore the study of this periodical literature is not to be depreciated; but something more than this is wanted. I would ask you to apply yourselves to this fugitive literature in moderation, with some restraint. The maxim the true student will place before

him—the man who aims at real culture—is this : know something of everything and everything of something—something about everything and everything about something. Something about everything, because a man of true culture needs a wide range of experience. Everything about something, some one thing, because it is necessary for the cultivating and bracing the mind that he should thoroughly have mastered some one subject or other. A learned and eloquent and witty living speaker, addressing an audience composed of clerks in offices and of working men, recommended them to take horse exercise as a very healthy refreshment after their daily toil. They were greatly amazed, and still more amused at this doctrine. It seemed to them, of course, so utterly chimerical, so utterly impracticable to give to men in offices, whose highest ambition it was to save a shilling or half-a-crown at rare intervals to spend on recreation. "Yes," he said, "I recommend horse exercise as a very healthy recreation. I recommend you each to ride a hobby." This is just the recommendation I want to give to you. I recommend each of you to ride a literary hobby. Bacon says some books are written to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and others to be digested. Now, my way of interpreting this saying is this : The literature which is to be tasted is the newspaper and periodical literature. You read an article here, and a notice there, and again an advertisement there. The literature which is written to be swallowed is novels—in fact, as a matter of fact, it is for the most part bolted, and though sometimes it may be very unsound it never can do very much good, if it is not digested. The literature which is written to be digested is scientific and historical literature, the more serious branches of study. Now, while you read your newspapers and periodicals, that you may know as far as your circumstances allow something about everything, you should take up some special study that you may know everything about something—some one thing—in other words, digest, digest, digest. I want you, every one of you who has any time at his disposal, to select some one subject which is congenial to his tastes—whatever those tastes may be—and try to really master it. Read, first of all, one good standard book about it, and gradually strive to make all your knowledge centre about it. Pick up all the information you can relating to that subject, so that you may see it in all its bearings. It may be a scientific subject—say, for instance, botany. I think no study can be more interesting or more instructive than this. You have quite sufficient facilities for this in your own neighbourhood, and higher up the Tees, you may probably be aware, is a most excellent field for botany. If any of your tastes run in this direction, what I should say to you is this : Try during the winter to master the principles of botany, and then when the spring begins, and flower after flower appears, you will find out what flower it is, place it in its proper species, genus and order, and learn its habits and its character. In this way, beginning at the spring of the year, and taking flower by flower as they came out, you will in that way gradually get a love of the subject, which will not be easily lost. Or again, if your tastes lie in a different direction, the direction of history, I would ask you in that case to do as I have already recommended. Take up some one book—a standard book. Read that very carefully, master the main lines of it, and then whenever a book falls in your way relating to that subject, either directly or indirectly, you will get hold of that book and cull from it whatever bears on your particular subject. A limited range of history will serve your purpose ; you should not try too much. I do recommend any of you who care for reading for its own sake, I do very strongly recommend you to take up some one line—some definite line; choose it, as I said before, in view of your particular tastes, and having chosen it, stick to it. The fact is, books are like men—one friend is worth more than a score of acquaintances ; and what I want you to do is to make a friend of one book, or of a few books, and not to scatter your attention over a few hundred books, of which you will never in that case know anything. I feel quite sure if you do this, you will not only find that your mind is strengthened day by day, but you will have new ideas and new interests which will be an hourly pleasure and satisfaction to you. I therefore offer you my hearty congratulations on the creation of this institution, which is calculated to confer such great benefit on the town of Darlington.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

THE December Monthly Meeting was held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, December 4th, at 7.30 p.m., Mr. H. R. Tedder in the chair.

Mr. Horace Cannon, London, and Mr. J. Teal, of Halifax, were duly elected Members of the Association.

In the absence of Mr. Chancellor Christie, V.P., the Hon. Secretary read his Paper on "The Catalogues of the La Vallière Library."

After a discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper.

The meeting then adjourned.

A form of certificate is in preparation, and will be shortly issued to the successful candidates in the Examination of Library Assistants.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

CAMBRIDGE.—According to the annual report of the University Library, during the year 1884 the number of titles printed for the general catalogue was 12,057, of which 4,257 represented the accessions for the year. The number of volumes lent out was 26,198, besides 450 for which special permission was required. By leave of the Senate 15 MSS. were lent out, and 630 MSS. and reserved books were used in the library.

DERBY.—Mr. Henry Allpass has ceased to be Librarian and Curator of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery, and Mr. W. Crowther has been appointed in his place.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—The return of the British Museum for the year 1884 shows that the number of visitors to the Museum (including the Natural History Museum) was 468,873, compared with 660,557 in 1883; and of readers and visitors to special departments, 200,269, compared with 199,279 in 1883. Of the new general catalogue 123 manuscript volumes have been printed during 1884, forming 30 volumes in print. During the year, 52,314 title-slips and 633 index-slips have been incorporated in the catalogue. The number of volumes and pamphlets bound was 21,621; besides, 1,339 pamphlets have been separately bound, and 780 volumes repaired; 2,890 parcels of newspapers have been packed and stored away to avoid the expense of binding. The number of volumes returned from use in the reading-room was 584,066, and to the presses in which books are kept from day to day for the use of readers, 489,115, making a total amount of 1,100,450 volumes supplied to readers. The average number of visits to the reading-room each year for the last six years was 141,385. During the past year the number of readers was 154,729, giving an average of about 509 daily, so that each reader appears to have consulted about 7 volumes per diem, not reckoning those on the shelves of the reading-room. 31,747 volumes and pamphlets have been added to the library in the course of the year (including books of music and volumes of newspapers), of which 3,376 were presented, 10,127 received in pursuance of the laws of English copyright, 1,486 received under the international copyright treaties, and 15,833 purchased. 30,188 parts of volumes (or separate numbers of periodical publications and works in progress) were added. The number of sets of newspapers published in the United Kingdom and received under the Copyright Act during the past year was:—407 published in London and its suburbs, 1,307 in other parts of England and Wales, 186 in Scotland and 155 in Ireland. 132 volumes, belonging to 69 different sets, have been

purchased, and 1,774 numbers have been presented. 6,783 pieces of music have been acquired, of which 3,166 were received by English, 2,494 by international copyright, and 1,123 by purchase. In the Manuscript Department, the incorporation of the printed description of MSS. acquired in the years 1854 to 1881 with the several volumes of the catalogue has been completed; and the second part, describing MSS. in Latin, has been passed through the press and issued, while various other catalogues are in progress. The number of manuscripts used in the reading-room was 27,943, in the Department 6,857, and the number of charters, &c., consulted was 1,697. The special visitors to the Department numbered 2,600. The number of manuscripts, including charters, acquired was 688, and of seals and casts 803.

Richmond (Surrey).—It has been finally decided to extend the library building. The following recommendations of the library committee have been approved by the vestry:—"Resolved, that the committee recommend the vestry—1. To adopt the original plan (No. 1) submitted to the committee for the enlargement of the library. 2. To accept the tender of Mr. Frederick Sims, that being the lowest. 3. To sanction the borrowing of £1,100, which sum, it is anticipated, will cover all expenses of building, fittings, &c. 4. That the committee have power to arrange the loan in such manner as may appear most advantageous to the vestry." The extension, which is greatly needed, will give twice the present amount of reading accommodation. The popularity of the library continually increases, the reading-room being inconveniently crowded during the greater portion of each day; all available shelf-space is filled up, the stock of books numbering nearly 12,000.

Wandsworth Public Library.—The Lord Mayor (Sir R. N. Fowler, M.P.) paid a visit to Wandsworth, on October 1st, to open the new Free Public Library, situated at West Hill. That there was a real demand for an institution of the kind in this rapidly-growing district is sufficiently shown by the fact that the daily attendance of readers at the reading-room, which has been open for some time, has averaged nearly a thousand, a number which will without doubt be largely increased, now that the Lending and Reference Libraries are available for use. The books number altogether nearly 7000 volumes. The books are arranged in different rooms, according to subjects. Thus there is a separate department for the Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the News Room, while special rooms are set apart for conversation and recreation and for the use of ladies. There is also a Juvenile Library, where only those books which are considered suited to the tastes of youthful readers are kept. The building is a handsome structure in the main road, with nearly an acre of ground attached to it, the entire freehold having been acquired by the ratepayers for a sum of £3,350, to which must be added alterations and repairs, bringing the amount to about £4,000. There have been numerous donations of books and money, amounting altogether to about £1,000. The rate will produce about £800. The Library having been declared open by the Lord Mayor, the company assembled shortly afterwards at the Town Hall, where a public meeting was held, at which speeches were made in celebration of the event. Dr. C. D. Longstaff, Chairman of the Commissioners, presided. In opening the proceedings the chairman pointed out that at the poll of ratepayers the proposal for establishing the Library found favour with four voters out of every five, the entire majority having been 1,055. The Lord Mayor, in congratulating the inhabitants of the district upon the establishment in their midst of so excellent an institution, referred to the progress made by Wandsworth since 1851, when the population was only 964, until the time of the last census in 1881, when it had increased to 28,004, and the present time, when in all probability it did not fall short of 32,000. The rate levied on account of the Library would suffice for the cost of administration, but it would leave very little margin for the purchase of books, so that he hoped that private individuals would come forward and subscribe towards the purchase of such additional volumes as it was desirable to have.

Wigan.—The Free library has received a handsome present from Mr. Alderman Booth of Southport, a lecturer at the Wigan Art Department of the Mining and

Mechanical School. Mr. Booth has painted a portrait of the Mayor, Mr. Alderman Park, who has been elected Mayor for the fourth time, and who is a member of the L.A.U.K., which he offered to the Library Committee. The committee, at a special meeting called to consider the offer, accepted the gift with pleasure, and it is proposed to hang it in the Reference Department.

FOREIGN.

BRUSSELS: BIBLIOTHÈQUE ROYALE.—The annual report of the Bibliothèque Royale for 1884 shows that in the printed book department 22,438 readers used 37,252 books, besides 4,100 books used in the evenings in the department of periodicals, which is open until 10.30. The number of volumes lent out to 233 persons entitled to borrow was 2000. In the department of MSS. 1,012 readers used 3,375 volumes. The accessions were: of printed books 2,966 volumes, and of MSS. 65. The grant to the library (exclusive of salaries) was 75,700 fr.

OPORTO.—We learn from a paragraph in the *Commercio do Porto* that during the month of November the number of readers at the Bibliotheca Publica was 451, who consulted 658 works.

PARIS: BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE.—An elaborate Report by M. Léopold Delisle, the Administrateur-Général of the Library, is printed in No. 4 of the *Bulletin des Bibliothèques et des Archives*. It is furnished with elaborate tables, showing the accessions to the library by deposit, purchase, and gift for a considerable period, as well as the binding done in and outside the library, and the number of readers and issues. The accessions in 1884 were, by purchase 5,609, by gift 4,049. The number of readers in the same year was, in the Salle de travail 71,932, who used 274,211 volumes; in the Salle de lecture 59,131, who used 93,782 volumes. M. Delisle complains that the funds of the Library are inadequate for the purchase of books, and that the numbers and pay of the officials are also insufficient. It appears that the fifty-four officials in the printed books and map department receive amongst them 162,000 fr., while in the corresponding department of the British Museum 122 officials receive 496,050 fr. M. Delisle gives an interesting account of the arrangement of the books, to which we hope to return upon another occasion. The number of volumes is reported as 1,923,562, occupying 34,024 metres of shelving. This is without counting separate works, which are estimated by M. Delisle at 2,200,000.

ST. HELENA.—The General Meeting of subscribers to the Public Library in this island was held on October 19th. The chair was taken by the Governor, Col. Grant Blunt, and the Bishop, and a large number of subscribers attended. The accounts showed that the expenditure had been in excess of income, and the Bishop appealed to the younger members of the community to support the library. The library was established in 1811, and numbers about 4,000 volumes. The subscription is 15s. a year.

ROME: VATICAN.—The first volume of the long expected Catalogue of the Vatican MSS. has been issued under the title: "Bibliotheca Apostolica Vaticana, codicibus manuscriptis recensita, jubente Leone XIII, Pont. Max., edita. Codices Manuscripti Palatini Græci descripti. Præside J. B. Pitra. Recensuit et digessit H. Stevenson. Romæ: ex typ. Vaticana."

In the Annual Report of the Local Government Board for 1884-85, appears in the Appendix, a list of places in which the Public Libraries Acts have been adopted, containing the names of 102 places, not even alphabetically arranged. From a statement in the report (p. cxxxi.) it appears that this list was obtained by the Board for the purposes of the Parliamentary Return, to the defectiveness of which we have already called attention.

Under the date of Cambridge, December 4th, Mr. Eiríkr Magnússon has printed a design for a library with a description. The design is meant to solve the problem: "How to construct a library so as to expand as it increases without interfering with existing internal arrangements, or the work of the officiating staff, or the convenience of readers." The nucleus of the building consists of a circular reading room with a dome, which reminds one of the British

Museum Reading Room. This communicates however with the rest of the library by eight radiating passages, while the library proper winds round this room by the prolongation of one wall which can be extended, if necessity requires, the whole being but one spiral passage carried on to any convenient length. The idea is that of the convolutions of a shell, and is certainly ingenious. It remains to be seen whether a bold architect will be found to put it in practice. Mr. Magnússon estimates that a wall of 1000 feet in length by 20 feet in height, above which he would not propose to go, would amply accommodate a library of 500,000 volumes, and would require less than an acre of ground to stand upon. A rough calculation of the cost of such a library, including a central dome 80 feet in height, gives a result of £33,000.

The new Scottish Geographical Society, in the first year of its operations, has collected a library of 2,810 books, maps and pamphlets, of which the larger number were presented.

Otto Funk, the Chicago book-thief, of whose depredations we gave some account in our February number (p. 38), committed suicide in prison, at Boston, on October 30th. He had been acquitted on the charge of stealing books from the Chicago public library on the ground of insanity. He was afterwards admitted as a student at the Harvard Divinity School, on the strength of letters of recommendation from people in Chicago, the dates of which he had altered from 1883 to 1885. He was detected stealing books from the library at Harvard, and some hundred volumes were found to have been secreted by him. There appears to be no doubt of his insanity.

According to the *Academy*, "the Curators of the Bodleian have had an enumeration made of the entire contents of the library. The total number of volumes (excluding 1625 volumes of Bodleian catalogues) was 432,417, of which 26,598 were MS., and 405,819 printed. Besides these, there were 1424 MS. pieces waiting to be catalogued and bound in volumes, and 24,988 periodical parts and pamphlets also waiting to be bound. And, further, there were those ordnance-maps which cannot be bound until the survey of their respective counties or towns is completed. The Bodleian building itself contained all the MSS. and 306,105 printed volumes. The number of these which a visitor sees is very small. The picture gallery had only 47,461, and the wing in which the catalogue stands only 21,787. Even readers see less than a third of the total contents of the building, for Duke Humfrey's library had only 10,462 volumes, and the Selden room only 27,088. The Camera contained 97,101 volumes, the vast majority of which are also out of sight, in the vault below the reading-room; the select open cases, from which the readers themselves take books, contained 7,004. The library at the Museum had 2,613 volumes on loan. In the first ten months of this year the number of items added (counting parts, separate maps, etc.) was 37,325; of these 26,291 came in under the Copyright Act, 4,955 by gift or exchange, 4,978 were new purchases, and 1,101 were second-hand purchases."

We have received the September-October double number of the *Library Journal* with the papers and proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the American Library Association. Of this we propose to give an account in our next number.

The December number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* contains articles on "Wilhelm Dilich's hessische Chronik," by Dr. K. Kochendörffer, "Ein Gesammtinventar der älteren deutschen gedruckten Litteratur," by Franz Schnorr von Carolsfeld and "Zum Wanderlagerverzeichniss Anthoni Kobergers," by Oscar Hase. The number contains an announcement that, in consequence of his engagements, Dr. K. Schulz retires from the joint-editorship.

By the recent death of Mrs. Julia Newberry, in Paris, the city of Chicago becomes possessed of one of the most magnificent bequests recorded in the history of private beneficence. Under the will of Mr. Walter Newberry, one-half of his fortune was to be devoted to the founding and endowment of a free library in Chicago. The donation was, however, suspended until the death of his widow, and the moiety that will now be available for this great work of public benefit is stated to amount to upwards of £800,000.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Bolton. Catalogue of the books in that portion of the Bolton Public Library forming the Free Lending Library. Revised and enlarged by James K. Waite, Librarian. Bolton, 1885. 8vo, pp. 271, wrapper.

An alphabetical catalogue of authors and titles with press marks. The type is small and the look of the pages not so attractive as it might be.

Bradford Public Free Library. Catalogue of the Central Reference Library. First edition. Bradford, 1885. Large 8vo, pp. [viii] 317, cloth back.

A neatly printed double column catalogue of 14,781 volumes, to which is appended a catalogue of works in the Museum relating to Arts. It is on the dictionary plan, with the author entries headed in a bold black type, and the subject and title entries in small capitals. It is sold for 2s.

Borough of Bolton. Thirty-second Annual Report of the Bolton Public Free Library Committee, 1884-1885. Bolton, 1885. 8vo, pp. 16.

In the reference department, 87,344 works were read, an increase of 5,445 as compared with last year. The lending department issued 45,970 volumes, being 597 less than the previous year. The Subscription Library issued 63,524 works, showing an increase of 6,211. The total number of volumes in the reference and lending libraries, including the Little Bolton Branch, is 55,185, of which 2,245 were added during the year. The Rate produced £1,500. The total expenditure was £1,272. 13s., with receipts—including balance brought forward of £1,873. 7s. 3d.—amounting to £3,519. 2s. 3d.

Manchester. Thirty-third Annual Report to the Council of the City of Manchester, on the working of the Public Free Libraries, 1884-1885. Manchester, 1885. 8vo, pp. 35.

During the year the number of visits to the various libraries and newsrooms was nearly two-millions and three-quarters, an increase of 230,000 over the previous year, and 430,000 in excess of the year 1883. The number of works issued for home reading in the lending department was 701,489, a considerable increase over the two previous years. The total issues from the reference and lending libraries, including branches, was 1,381,149. There are now 176,157 volumes of books in the libraries. The number in the reference library is 78,551, and in the six branches 97,606. The addition to the stock was 6,903, and volumes withdrawn as worn out or otherwise unserviceable, amounted to 3,135. The Committee refer specially to a gift from the Chairman of the Committee (Sir Thomas Baker) of 500 volumes, including a collection illustrating the early History of Nonconformity in Manchester. There is no financial information.

Borough of St. Helens. Eighth Annual Report of the Committee of the St. Helens, Free Public Library, 1884-1885. St. Helens, 1885. 8vo, pp. 20.

The Committee report satisfactory progress; the total receipts were £600. 17s. 8d., and the expenditure the same. By purchase and donation 1,140 volumes have been added to the reference and lending departments, making the total stock 11,295. The increase in the lending library for home reading was 11,010, the total number of volumes lent being 73,602, against 62,592 for the previous year. In the reference department, the number of books read was 3,858, showing a decrease of 123 upon the previous year. The total number of visits to the reading room was 159,780, against 110,908, showing an increase of 56,837. The Ladies' and the Boys' reading rooms have been well attended. The Sunday attendances show a total of 7,965, an increase of 359 over the previous year.

The Report of the Librarian of the Galashiels Free Library for the year ending June 30th, states that during the year 18,940 books were issued. The number of Readers' cards is 1698. 170 volumes were added, 91 by purchase and 79 by gift. The income was £246. 10s. 6d., and the expenditure was £235. 17s. 8d., leaving a balance of £8 12s. 10d.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

A bibliography of Protozoa, Sponges, Cœlenterata and Worms, including also the Polyzoa, Brachiopoda and Tunicata. For the years 1861-1883. By D'Arcy W. Thompson. Cambridge: at the University Press, 1885. 8vo, pp. viii. 284. Price 12s. 6d.

This work is intended to supplement the well-known bibliography of Carus and Engelmann, and is dedicated to the former. The works and papers enumerated are arranged alphabetically under classes in view of easy reference, "rather than of what would be most strictly correct according to current views." The index seems very good and full, but there should surely have been a table of contents also. To biologists of course the book will be indispensable.

Initials and Pseudonyms: a Dictionary of literary Disguises. By William Cushing. London, 1886. Large 8vo, pp. iv. 603. Price £1 5s.

A necessary supplement to the valuable *Dictionary of the Anonymous and Pseudonymous Literature of Great Britain*, by Halkett and Laing. The first part is an alphabetical list of initials and pseudonyms, followed by the real names of the writers. The second part consists of a list of the authors thus mentioned, each with a notice of his various literary disguises and a short biography. The book is chiefly devoted to English and American literature from the beginning of the 18th century to the present time, but a few recent continental pseudonyms have been included.

Les livres à clef: étude de Bibliographie critique et analytique pour servir à l'histoire littéraire; par Fernand Drujon. Paris, 1885, 2 parts, 8vo. Price 30 fr.

From the time of *Diana* (1560), the Spanish pastoral romance of Montemayer, and of the never-ending tomes of Madeleine de Scudéry in the 17th century, it has been a favourite device in fictions to depict known contemporary personages. Several keys to *Le grand Cyrus* were circulated when the work was published between 1649 and 1653. French literature is peculiarly rich in novels representing living characters more or less disguised, and such works have been made a special study by several bibliographers. One of these was Née de la Rochelle (d. 1838), in *Récréations Bibliographiques*, which like the similar investigations of Eloi Johanneau (d. 1837) still remains in manuscript. Among the posthumous writings of J. M. Quérard, published by G. Brunet, is *Livres à clef* (Bordeau, 1873), an 8vo volume of 224 pages. The work of M. Drujon mentioned above is a much more elaborate undertaking, and is full of the most interesting bibliographical and historical research. The titles are arranged alphabetically. They are chiefly French, but there are a few foreign ones. A third part has yet to appear.

Études sur la Bibliographie Elzevirienne, basées sur l'ouvrage *Les Elzevier* de M. Alphonse Willems, par le Dr. G. Berghman. Stockholm: imprimerie d'Ivar Haeggström, 1885. Roy. 8vo, pp. [iv.] 76 + plates.

A beautifully printed book of which only 100 copies have been printed. It is illustrated by "470 figures reproduisant les vignettes, culs-de-lampe et lettres grises des Elzevier." We propose to give a fuller account of this book.

Wegweiser durch die neuere Literatur der Staats-und-Rechtswissenschaften (abgeschlossen am 1 Juli, 1885); für die Praxis bearbeitet von Otto Mühlbrecht. Berlin: Puttkammer und Mühlbrecht, 1886. 8vo, pp. xvi. 429.

A bookseller's catalogue, with prices, of political and legal literature, chiefly belonging to the present century. The titles (about 16,000 in number) are short, and are arranged in classified order. There is a full index.

An engraving of the proposed new Free Public Library at Wimbledon may be seen in *The Builder* for December 12. The building, including lighting and heating apparatus (but not the bookcases), is to cost £2,165.

To a reprint, as it should be called, though the publisher describes it as a fac-simile, which it is not, of the first edition (1766) of Goldsmith's *Vicar of Wakefield* (Elliot Stock), Mr. Austin Dobson has prefixed an introduction containing some new and

interesting facts respecting the first publication of the novel, together with a bibliographical list of editions and translations.

Mr. A. S. Pennington has added a meagre bibliography of the subject to his work on *British Zoophytes* (L. Reeve & Co., 1885).

An excellent bibliography is included in *Italian Popular Tales* (London: Macmillan, 1885, 8vo.) by Thomas F. Crane, professor of the Romance languages in Cornell University.

A "Chronological list of some of the principal books published by Adam Black and A. and C. Black," forms a useful addition to the second edition of the interesting *Memoirs of Adam Black, edited by A. Nicolson.* (Edinburgh: Black, 1885).

The *Celtic Magazine* for October contains a "Rough preliminary list of books printed in the Irish character and language," which the compiler hopes may serve useful as a beginning. The books extend from 1571 to 1817, from the time when Queen Elizabeth presented to O'Kearney the first "fount" in Irish character. The initials T. B. R. at the foot of the list will explain themselves to many of our readers.

In connexion with the bicentennial festival of Gay's birth recently held at Barnstaple, the October and November numbers of the *Western Antiquary* contain an article on "Gay and 'The Beggar's Opera,'" by Dr. T. N. Brushfield, and an account of the proceedings at the celebration, with the papers read on the occasion.

The October number of the *Harvard University Bulletin* continues the catalogue of the Kohl Collection of Early Maps, the Classified Index to the Publications of the Royal Geographical Society and the Dante Collection, together with a useful "Index of Reference Lists and Special Bibliographies included in Periodical and other publications of recent date."

The October *Bulletin of the Mercantile Library of Philadelphia* contains the first instalment of a "List of Historical Novels," which classifies them by countries and states, following a chronological order as far as possible. The present instalment deals with the United States.

The printed catalogue of the Library of Trinity College, Dublin, of which Mr. H. D. Hutton is in charge, has now been completed to the end of the alphabet. Mr. Hutton is engaged upon a supplement, which it is hoped may be completed about Easter.

M. Henri Omont of the MSS. Department of the Bibliothèque Nationale is engaged upon an edition of Richard de Fournival, which he hopes to issue next year. M. Omont has reproduced in fac-simile the 'Biblionomia Richardi de Furnivalle,' from a MS. in the Bibliothèque de l'Université, for use in his lectures on bibliography at the Bibliothèque Nationale. We shall look with great interest for M. Omont's account of this extremely curious and interesting work.

We have received from Toronto a "Catalogue of Books and Pamphlets presented to the Toronto Public Library by John Hallam." (Toronto 1883, 4to, pp. [iv] 76). The catalogue embraces over 2,000 volumes, which are classified in two divisions, the books being arranged under author, subject and title. The first division, "Americana," covers a rich collection of books on Canada and the New World, including the early French voyages. The second consists of a useful collection of standard works in general literature. There is appended a list of pamphlets, arranged alphabetically under subjects. The catalogue is compiled by Mr. G. Mercer Adam.

The "Transactions and Proceedings of the Library Association of the United Kingdom at their Sixth Annual Meeting, held at Liverpool, September 1883," are now nearly ready for issue, and subscriptions should be sent at once. The price to subscribers is 12s., which will be raised on publication to 16s. The volume includes the following Papers:—Opening Address, by Sir James Picton, President; The Rise and Growth of Public Libraries in America, by T. E. Stephens; The Origin and History of some Liverpool Libraries, by P. Cowell, V.P.; Chinese Libraries, by Professor R. K.

Douglas; The Old Church and School Libraries of Lancashire, by R. C. Christie, V.P.; The Functions and Operations of the Free Library System; by John Lovell; Library Pests, by Samuel Smith; Starved Free Libraries, by W. R. Credland; A Proposed System of Differential Rating as applied to Free Public Libraries, by Thomas Formby; Technical Literature in Free Public Libraries, by John Southward; Early Laws and Regulations concerning Books and Printers, by Cornelius Walford; Free Library Buildings, their Arrangement and Fittings, by W. Henman, A.R.I.B.A.; Recollections of Mr. James Lenox, by Henry Stevens of Vermont. Appendix: I. Exhibition of Library appliances and Bindings, &c., by W. May; II. Visit of the Association to Wigan: Haigh Hall and the Free Library. The index has been compiled by Mr. W. May.

Notes and Queries.

Notes.

The University Library of Lisbon is rejoicing in having completed its hitherto imperfect set of the only Lusitanian *incunabulum* in its possession, a Portuguese translation of Ludolphus's Vita Christi, printed at Lisbon in 149- in four volumes. Of these the third and fourth only have hitherto been in the library, but it has now acquired vols. 1 and 2 for about £10 English. The poverty of the library in early productions of the national press may appear singular, but in fact these are by no means numerous. Panzer enumerates only ten printed in Lisbon up to and including 1500, and six of them are in Hebrew. The first in date was printed in 1489. The Vita Christi would seem to be the first Portuguese printed book. There were probably others not known to Panzer; if not, the printers, Nicolaus de Savonia and Valentinus de Moravia, must soon have shaken the dust off their feet.—R. G.

A curious illustration of the difficulty and uncertainty which so often attends the extension of the contractions found in mediæval manuscripts, has recently turned up at the Record Office. The contraction referred to was found on one of the Close Rolls, temp. Henry III. Various authorities—all of them experts of the first water—after very careful examination, proposed to extend the contraction in the following different ways: *A* read it initiamentum; *B* mutacionem; *C* interatim; *D* materiam; *E* instanciam; *F* mencionem; *G* inde causam; while three authorities gave up the puzzle as insoluble. Several of the experts now agree that *inde causam* is the right extension, though some of them still defend their own several interpretations. It should be observed that the difficulty does not arise from any defective condition of the parchment, which is quite clean, while the writing of the phrase is perfectly distinct.—R.O.

Queries.

In the library of the British Museum is a book catalogued under Barbara, Saint, without printer's name, but published at Mentz by Johann Schöffer in 1503. The title-page, or what represents the title-page, reads as follows (neglecting the contractions, which are not material to our present purpose):—"Hanc informationem de genealogia beatissimae virginis Christi sponsae Barbarae cum uno sermone theologali fecit imprimere Moguntie Reverendissimus in Christo pater et dominus Raymundus miseratione divina tituli sancte Mariae novae sacrosanctae Romanae ecclesiae presbiteri Cardinalis Burcensis ad Germaniam Datiam, etc. Apostolicae sedis delatere Legatus Anno dñi MCCCCCIII ut distribuat gratis diversis personis et ecclesiis quibus dedit reliquias ad dei honorem et sanctorum laudem."

Is this the first instance of a book being printed for gratuitous distribution?—R. G.

According to Bernard's *Catalogi librorum mauuscriptorum Angliae et Hiberniae*, there was at that time a MS. of the Philobiblon at Gresham College. In the *Catalogue of books . . . in the Library of Gresham College*, printed in 1872, I find no mention of it. Can anyone say what has become of it, or where it is at present to be found?—E. C. T.

Editorial Postscript.

Before laying down his pen at the end of a second volume of the LIBRARY CHRONICLE the Editor desires to thank those Members of the Association who have assisted him by contributing articles, or by sending items of news or library reports and other publications of interest to the readers of the Chronicle. Without their assistance it would have been impossible to do what has been done. But he feels that more might have been done, if more of our Members, and especially some of our leading Members could have found time to lend some active assistance in the somewhat arduous task of carrying on a monthly periodical. The Editor is quite aware that the claims upon the time of a zealous librarian are very great. At the same time the decision on the part of the Council and the Association to carry on a magazine ought to mean that those who are responsible for the decision are bound to render some active assistance in the work. The Editor who has cheerfully borne all the drudgery of the work of editor and sub-editor, as well as manager, of our official organ for four years, feels that he is entitled to ask for an increased measure of support from those who have by repeated resolutions determined that the publication should be continued.

Our members are aware that it is proposed to put the publication of the CHRONICLE upon a new basis. The increase in the number of our members and in the routine work which necessarily follows, requires that some arrangement should be made for a office and a permanent officer. The best way in which these things may be secured has been long and carefully considered by the Council. The plan that has recommended itself to them was all but unanimously approved by the Plymouth meeting. The officers and the Council believe that if the members of the Association will afford them such support as may be reasonably expected, that plan has a very fair chance of being successfully carried out. That the necessary financial support will be forthcoming, there seems no reason to doubt. But what the Council also ask is that the members of the Association will give them the literary support which the Association requires. If this is afforded to the Chronicle, there seems every reason to expect that it will be successful, not only in a literary but also in a financial sense.

Notices.

PLYMOUTH TRANSACTIONS.

It is proposed to issue the Papers read at the Plymouth Meeting in the CHRONICLE for 1886; copies of the numbers containing these Papers will be sent to all Members whose subscription for the year ending Oct. 4th, 1885, has been paid. The Proceedings and other official matter will be separately printed, and it is hoped that these may be issued almost immediately.

CASES FOR BINDING.

Cases for binding the Liverpool Volume, and also for the LIBRARY CHRONICLE, will be prepared if a sufficient number of applications is made to justify the expense. It is important that application should be made early.

LIVERPOOL AND DUBLIN TRANSACTIONS.

The Index to the Liverpool Volume is in type, and it is proposed to issue it with the next number of the CHRONICLE. The Dublin Volume has also gone to press and all Papers should be sent at once to the Secretary.

MR. BRADSHAW'S PAPER ON EARLY PRINTED BIBLES.

In answer to several correspondents, the Editor begs to say that he regrets as much as they do the delay in the publication of the Paper on "Early Printed Bibles," which was read by Mr. Henry Bradshaw at the May Monthly Meeting. It will be printed as soon as it has been received.

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